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0521664861 - The Cambridge Dictionary of Human Biology and Evolution

Larry L. Mai, Marcus Young Owl and M. Patricia Kersting

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The Cambridge Dictionary of Human Biology and Evolution

The *Cambridge Dictionary of Human Biology and Evolution* (CDHBE) is an invaluable research and study tool for both professionals and students covering a broad range of subjects within human biology, physical anthropology, anatomy, auxology, primatology, physiology, genetics, paleontology, and zoology. Packed with 13,000 descriptions of terms, specimens, sites and names, CDHBE also includes information on over 1000 word roots, taxonomies and reference tables for extinct, recent and extant primates, geological and oxygen isotope chronologies, illustrations of anatomical landmarks, bones and muscles, and an illustration of current hominid phylogeny, making this a must-have volume for anyone with an interest in human biology or evolution. CDHBE is especially complete in its inventory of archaeological sites and the best-known hominid specimens excavated from them, but also includes up-to-date information on terms such as *in silico*, and those relating to the rapidly developing field of human genomics.

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Preface

Human biology is a diverse and multidisciplinary field that includes or borrows from anthropology, anatomy, auxology, evolutionary biology, genetics, geology, physiology, and zoology. In our studies of human biology we found that medical or general biology dictionaries often did not define many terms used in non-clinical human biology. This was especially true of the core terms used in physical anthropology and primatology. We have attempted to bridge that gap with this work.

This compilation is intended to define and elaborate on the more important terms used in human biology and evolution. For readers with little background in these subjects, it identifies and provides definitions of core terms most frequently used in these areas. In addition, we have attempted to define, and occasionally annotate or expand on, subjects of interest to advanced students and professionals, such as fossil specimens, paleontological sites, and primate genera.

Rationalization of entries

Terms: individual entries were selected by compiling lists of terms from glossaries and indices found in major textbooks and best-selling or classic works on relevant subjects. Approximately 30 000 terms were ranked with respect to ubiquity; the least frequent terms were then culled to leave a manageable body of about 13 000 terms. Occasionally, a neologism (e.g. genomics) was included when it was deemed that such terms would be useful in the future.

The 1000 most common terms are preceded in this dictionary by the symbol ‡. We hope that students will find these pointers useful.

Similarly, short biographies were included for individuals that have been most frequently mentioned in introductory textbooks. The editors apologize for any inadvertent omissions, and would appreciate suggestions in this area.

Please send comments, corrections and/or additions to
lmai@csulb.edu or youngowl@csulb.edu.

Note that all terms apply to the human species by default, unless a primate is specifically mentioned.

Preface

Cross-referencing

Bold terms in the body of a definition refer to an entry elsewhere in the dictionary. In the following entry, for example,

matriline: pertaining to the lineal descent of anything passed from a mother to her offspring, such as access to territory or other resource, social status within a dominance system, or specific genes that display a pattern of **maternal inheritance** such as those contained in **mitochondrial DNA**; matrilineal. Aka uterine descent, matrilinear inheritance. See **hologyny**. Cf. **patriline** and **holandry**.

the reader is referred to the entries *maternal inheritance*, *mitochondrial DNA* and *hologyny* for related or supplementary material, and to the terms *patriline* and *holandry* for contrasting material.

A note on taxonomy

The fundamental unit of taxonomy is the species. The species name is always accompanied by its genus (although the genus may be abbreviated). These two terms form a binomen. The binomen is often followed by the authority when first presented in a publication. The authority is the name(s) of the author(s) who first described the species. That authority will forever follow the species name, even though the genus may change. For example, the original common description of the chimpanzee was by J. F. Blumenbach:

Simia troglodytes Blumenbach, 1775

Later a new genus name was accepted and a new authority for the genus was established, *Pan* Oken, 1816. However, the species name for the common chimpanzee remained the same. The original authority is retained, but is now enclosed by parentheses, thereby noting that there has been a change in the genus name. Thus,

Pan troglodytes (Blumenbach, 1775)

To be valid, a proposed taxonomic name for a living species must be examined and approved by a board of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN). In the case of fossil species, the use of the species name in a subsequent publication by another author(s) validates a new species' name.

Appendices 1 and 2 provide taxonomies of living and extinct primates. These are not formal taxonomies, but are intended to provide the reader with lists of species' names that have been used consistently in the literature, although not all are universally accepted.

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Finally, we acknowledge and deeply appreciate the patience and forbearance of our colleagues, families and friends, especially Janine Bernor Mai and Rolaine Young Owl.

Word roots

a-: not, without, negating
 ab-: away from
 abdom(in)-: abdomen, belly
 -able: capable (of)
 ac-: to, toward
 acet(o)-: vinegar
 acid-: sour, bitter, sharp
 acous-: hearing
 acro-: tip; top; height
 act-: do, drive, act
 acti(no)-: radius
 acu-: needle; sharp
 ad-: to, towards
 aden(o)-: gland
 adip(o)-: fat
 aer-: air, atmosphere; gas
 aesthe-: perceive, feel
 af-: to, toward
 -agogue: away, leading
 agglutin-: glue together
 -agra: acute pain
 alb-: pale, white
 alg-: pain
 -alis: of, belonging to
 all(o)-: other, different
 alve(ol)-: socket, channel
 ambi-: both; surround
 amph-: both, two
 amylo-: starch
 an-: up; back; not
 ancylo-: crooked, bent
 andr(o)-: man, male
 ang-: vessel
 ankylo-: bent; fusion
 ante-: before
 anthrop(o)-: human, Man
 anti-: against, opposite
 antr(o)-: cavern
 -anus: belonging to
 ap(ic)-: toward; tip
 -aph(e)-: touch
 apo-: derived from
 append(ic)-: attach

aqua-: water
 arachn-: spider
 arch-: first; origin; ancient
 -aris: pertaining to
 arteri(o)-: artery; wind pipe
 arthr(o)-: joint
 arti-, art-: art
 artic(ul)o-: joint
 as-: to, toward
 -asia: pathological state
 -asis: condition, state (of)
 at-: to, toward
 -atus: provided with
 audi-: hearing
 aur-: ear; gold
 austr-: south, southern
 aut(o)-: self
 aux-: grow, enlarge
 axo-: axis; axle
 axill-: armpit
 ba-: walk, stand
 bacill-: rod, little stick, wand
 bacteri(o)-: staff, cane
 ball(o)-: throw
 bar-: heavy; pressure
 bas-: base, foundation
 bi-: two, twice; between
 bili-: bile; anger
 (-)bio(-): life, living
 biocenos-: compound prefix referring to living organisms in a shared environment (is composed of two stems)
 (-)blast(o)(-): bud, embryo
 blep(o)-: looking, seeing
 blephar-: eyelash
 bol(o)-: throw
 brachi(o)-: arm
 brachy-: short
 brad-: slow
 brom(o)-: stench; oats; food
 bronch-: windpipe
 bryo-: be full of life; moss
 bucc-: cheek
 cac-: bad, ill
 calcan(e)-: heel
 calc(i)-: heel; limestone; lime
 calor(i)-: heat
 canc-: crab; ulcer; cancer
 capit-: head
 caps-: container, box
 carb-: coal, charcoal
 carcin-: crab; ulcer; cancer
 card-: heart
 cary(o)-: nut; kernel; nucleus
 cat-: down, lower; against
 caud-: tail
 cav-: hollow
 cec-: blind
 celo-, -cele: tumor; cavity
 cell-: small room; granary
 cen(o)-: common; empty; new
 (-)cent(e)(-): puncture, prick
 centi-: hundred; hundredth
 centr-: point, center
 (-)cephal(-): head
 cept-: take, receive
 cer-: wax
 cera-: horn
 cereb-: brain
 cervi-: neck
 chamae-: dwarflike; low
 chancr-: crab; cancer
 cheil(o)-: lip; edge; claw
 cheir(o)-, chir(o)-: hand
 chiasm-: cross-shaped
 chlor(o)-: green
 chol-: bile; anger
 chondr(o)-: cartilage; grain
 chord-: string, cord, gut
 chori-: membrane; skin
 chrom-, chromat(o)-: color
 chron-: time
 chy-: pour; juice
 -cid(e), -cidal: cut, kill
 cili(o)-: eyelid; eyelash; hairlike

Word roots

cine-: movement	di(a)-: through, completely	flav-: yellow
cingul-: girdle; belt	didym(a)-: twin; double; testis	-flex-, (-)flex-: bend, divert
-cipient: receive, receptor	digit-: finger, toe	flu-: flow
circum-: about, around	dipl-: double, twice, twin	for-: door, opening
(-)cis(-): near side of	dis-: reversal; separation	fore-: before
clad-: branch, offshoot	disc-: plate, disk	-form: shape, resembling
(-)clas(-): break, fragmented	dist-: distant	fract-: break
cleav-: divide	dolicho-: long	front(o)-: forehead, front
clin(o)-: bend, incline, slope	-donto-: tooth	-fug: flee, avoid; banish
clu-: shut, close	dors(o)-: back	funct-: perform, serve
co-: with, together	drom-: running; race course	fund-: pour; alkaline
cocc-: berry, grainlike	-ducent: lead, conduct	furc-: fork
(-)coel(-): swelling, cavity	duc(t)-: lead, conduct; carry	fus-: pour; spindle
-coid: like	dur-: hard	gala-: milk
col-: with, together	dyn-: power	gam-: marriage
colo(n): colon, limb	dys-: bad; ill; difficult; enter	gangli-: swelling, knot
colp(o)-: hollow; womb	e-: from, without, other than	gast-: stomach
com-, con-: with, together	ec-: out, outside	gelat-: freeze, congeal
contra-: against, opposite	(-)ech(-): have, hold, be	gemin-: twin, double; coupled
copr(o)-: feces, dung	eco-: house, dwelling	gen(o)-, -gen: originate; race
cor-: with, together	ecto-: out, outside, external	-gene, -genic, -geny: origin
corn-: animal horn; hard	-ectomy: surgical removal	geo-: earth
coron-: crown; crow	ede-: swelling; genitals	germ-: bud; seed
corp-: body	electr-: amber; electricity	gera-: old age
cort-: bark, rind	-ellus: diminutive; small	gest-: bear, carry
cost(a)-: rib	(-)em(-): in; within; blood	giga-: giant
crani-, -cranic: skull; helmet	-emia: state of the blood	gland-: acorn
cre-: meat, flesh	en-: in, within	glen(o)-: pit, socket
-cresc: growth, increase	encephal(o)-: brain	-gli: glue
cret-: chalk; separate; grow	end(o)-: inside, within	gloss-: tongue
crin(o)-: separate off; secrete	-ens: belonging to (a locality)	glott-: tongue; language
cross(o)-: at right angles	enter(o)-: intestine	gluc-: sweetness
crur(a)-: shin, leg	ep(i)-: upon, beside, above	glutin-: glue
crux-: at right angles; cross	equi-: equal to; horse	glyc-: sweet
cry(o)-, crys(m)o)-: cold, frost	erg(o)-: work, deed	(-)gnath(-): jaw
crypt(o)-: hidden, concealed	erythr(o)-: red	gnos-: know; knowledge
cult-: tend, plow; worship	eso-: inside, within, inward,	gon-: produce; seed; angle
cune(i)-: wedge	esth-: perceive; clothe; eat	-gony: seed; offspring
cusp-: point, apex	ethm-: sieve	grad-: walk; slope
cut-: skin, surface	eu-: well, good, normal, easily	gram-: grass
cyan-: blue	ex(o)-: outside, outward	-gramm: scratch, write
cycl(o)-: circle, cycle	extra-: outside of, beyond	gran-: grain, seed
cyst(o)-: sac, bladder,	faci-: face	(-)graph-: write, record
cyt(o)-, -cyte: cell	-facient: making, causing	grav-: heavy; pregnancy
dacry-: tear	-fact-: make	gymn-: naked, exposed
dactyl(o)-: finger, toe	fasci-: band; bundle	gyn-: woman, female
de-: down, lack of, from, out	febr(i)-: fever; boil	gyr-: ring, circle
dec(a)-: ten	-fect-: make	haem-: blood
demi-: half or lesser	-ferent: bear, carry	halo-: salt; breathe
dendr(o)-: tree, treelike	ferr(o)-: iron	hapl(o)-: simple, single
dent-: tooth	fibr-: fiber	hapt(o)-: touch; fasten
derm-: skin	fil-: thread	hect(o)-: hundred
desm-: band, ligament	filii-: son, daughter	helco-: sore, ulcer; suck
dext-: to the right	fiss-: split, cleft	helic(o)-: spiral
di-: twice, two, double	flagell-: whip	helio-: sun

Word roots

hem-: blood	labi-: lip	mu-: change
hemi-: half	lacr-: tears	multi: many, much, several
hen(o)-: one; year	lact-: milk	my(o)-: muscle; mouse
hepa-: liver	lal-: speech	myc-: fungus, fungal
hept(a)-: seven	lapar(o)-: loin, flank; abdomen	myel-: marrow; spinal cord
hered-: heir; inherit	laryng-: windpipe; gullet	myx-: mucus, slime
heter(o)-: other, different	lat(i)-: wide	narc-: numbness, stupor
hex(a)-: six	later-: to the side	nas-: nose
hidro-: sweat	lent-: thick, slow	ne(o)-: new, recent, immature
hist(o)-: tissue, web	lepi-: scale, flake	necr(o)-: death; dead
hod(o)-: road, path	leps-: take, seize	nephhr-: kidney
hol(o)-: whole, entire	lept-: slender	neur-: nerve; cord
homeo-: same; constant	leuc(o)-, leuk(o): white	nod-: knot
horm-: impetus, impulse	lien-: spleen	non-: not; nine
hyal(o)-: glasslike	liga-: tie, bind	nos(o)-: disease
hydat-, hydr-: water	limn-: swamp, marsh; lake	noth(o)-: spurious; a mongrel
hygr(o)-: wet; moist	lingu(a)-: tongue	noto-: back
hyl-: wood; matter	lip(o)-: fat; leave; lack	nuc(le)-: nut, kernel; nucleus
hyper-: above, beyond	lith-: stone, calculus	nutri-: nourish, nourishing
hyp(o)-: under, below	loc-: place	nyc-: night
hypn(o)-: sleep; hypnosis	log(o)-: discourse, words	ob-, oc-: inversely, against
hyps-: high	-logy: study of	ocul-: eye
hyster(o)-: uterus; lower; latter	lumb-: loin; lower back	-od-, -ode: road, pathway
-ia: state, condition	lut-: yellow; mud	odont(o)-: tooth, toothlike
iatr-: physician; medicine	ly(o)-: dissolved; loose	-odyn: pain, distress
-id: form, shape; condition	lymph-: water; nymph	-oid: form; resembling
idi-: small; peculiar to	lys-: dissolve; loose; solution	-ol: oil; alcohol
il-: not; without; in	macr(o)-: long; large	ole-: oil; olive
ile(o)-: intestine; twist; roll	mal-: bad, abnormal; ill	olecran(o)-: elbow
ilia-: flank, loin	malac-: soft	olig(o)-: few, small, deficient
im-: in, within; not	mamm-: teat; breast	-ology: discourse or study
immun-: safe, free, exempt	man(u)-: hand	-oma: tumor
in-: in, within; not	mani-: mental aberration	omni-: all, everywhere
infra-: beneath, below	mast(o)-: breast; nipple	omphal-: umbilicus, navel
insul(a)-: island	medi-: middle	onc(o)-: mass, tumor, swelling
inter-: between	mega-: great, large	onych(o)-: claw, nail
intr(a)-: inside, within, during	mel(o)-: limb, member; cheeks	oo-: egg, ovum
-inus: like	melan(o)-: black; dark	ophthalm(o)-: eye
-ion: go, enter; small	men(o)-: month	opt-: see, vision, sight
ir-: in, within; not	menin-: membrane	or-: mouth
iri-: rainbow; iris (of the eye)	ment-: mind, chin	orbi-: circle
isch(o)-: suppress	mer-: part	orchi-: testis, testicle
ischii-: hip	mes(o)-: middle, intermediate	organ(o)-: instrument; organ
-iscus: less than or smaller	met-: after; beyond; change	orth-: straight, normal, exact
-ism: belief; process; state of	(-)metr-: measure; uterus	-ory: pertaining to; effect of
iso-: equal, same, uniform	micr(o)-: small	-os-, -osus: full of; prone to
-itis: inflammation	mid-: middle	oss-, ost-: bone
jact-; ject-: throw	mill-: one thousand	ot-: ear
jejun(o)-: empty; hungry; dry	miss(i)-: send	ov-: egg
jug(o)-, junct-: yoke; join	mito-: thread	oxy-: sharp, quick, sour; acid
juxta-: near, beside	-mittent: sending	pach(y)-: thick
kary(o)-: nucleus, nut, kernel	mnem-: remember	pagi(o)-: fix, make fast
kerat(o)-: horn	mon-: one, single	pale(o)-: old, ancient
kilo-: thousand	(-)morph(-): form, shape	pan-: all; general, global
kine-: movement; moveable	mot-: move	par(a)-: beside, parallel

Word roots

-parous: producing; birthing	pleur-: rib, side	sanguin-: blood
partum-: bear, give birth to	plex-: strike; network; plait	sarc-: flesh
path(o)-, -pathy: disease	plic(o)-: fold	schist(o)-: split, cleft
pec-: fix, make fast; comb	plio-: more	schiz(o)-: split, cleft, divide
ped(o)-, pedi-: child; foot; soil	(-)pne(-): breathe; lungs; air	scler(o)-: hard
pell-: skin	pod(o)-: foot	scop-, -scope, -scopy: look at
-pellent: drive	(-)poie(-): make, produce	(-)sect(-): cut, cutting
pelv-: basin, bowel	poikilo-: variable, various	semi-: half, partly
pen(e)-: need, lack; almost	pol(i)-: axis of a sphere	sens(i)-: perceive, feel
pend-: hang down	poly-: many, much	sep-: rot, decay; infect
-penia: deficiency	pont(i)-: bridge	sept-: seven; fence
pent(a)-: five	por-: passage; stone; pore	ser-: whey, watery substance
pep-: digest; cook	posit-: put, place	serrate-: saw-edged
per-: through, completely	post-: behind in time or place	sex(a)-: six
peri-: around, surrounding	pre-: before in time or place	sial-: saliva
pet-: seek, tend toward	press-: stress, strain	simi-: ape
petr-: rock, stone	prim-: first	sinu-: hollow, fold
pex-, -pexy: fix, make fast	pro(s)-: before in time or place	-sis: process, action
pha-: say, speak	proct(o)-: anal or rectal region	sit-: food; place, location
phac-, phak-: lentil; lens	prosop(o)-: face	solut-, -solv-: loose, dissolve
phag-: eat, swallow	proto-: first, earliest form of	soma-, -some: body
-phagous: eating, feeding on	pseud(o)-: false	spas-: draw, pull
phan-: show; appear	psych-: soul, mind; thought	spectr-: presence; apparition
pharm(ac)-: drug; toxin	psychr(o)-: cold	sperg-: scatter
pharyn-: throat, pharynx	pto-: fall	sperm-: seed
phen-: show, be seen	pub(er)-: adult	sphen-: wedge
pher-, phor-: bear, carry	pulmo(no)-: lung	spher-: ball, globe, round
(-)phil(-): like, love, affinity for	puls-: drive; stroke; beat	sphin-: draw tight, constrict
phleb(o)-: vein, blood vessel	punct(i)-: prick, pierce	sphygm(o)-: pulse
phleg-, phlog-: burn, inflame	pur(i)-: pus	spin(i)-: thorn
(-)phob(-): fear, dread	py-: pus	spir(o)-: breathe; coil
phon-: sound	pyel(o)-: trough; basin	splanchn-: viscera
phor-: show; carry, move	pyl(o)-: door, orifice	splen-: patch
phot(o)-, phos-: light	pyr(i)-: fire, heat, fever	spor-: seed, spore
phragm, phrax-: fence, wall	quadr-: four, fourth, fourfold	squam-: scale
phren-: mind; heart	quasi-: almost; nearly; like	sta-: make stand, stop
phthi-: decay, waste away	quin-, quinque-: five, fifth	stal-: send
phy-: beget, bring forth	rachi-: spine	staphyl(o)-: cluster of grapes
phyc-: seaweed	radi-: rays; radius; spoke	stea-: fat
phyl-: race, tribe, kind	re-: back; again	sten(o)-: narrow, constricted
phyla-: guard	rect-: straight	ster-: solid; three dimensional
phyll(o)-, -phyll: leaf	ren-: kidney	sterc-: feces, dung
phys-: blow, inflate; nature	ret-: net	sthen-: strength
pico-: one trillionth	retr(o)-: backwards, behind	stol-: send
pil(i)-: hair	rhag-: break, burst, cracked	stomat-: mouth, orifice
-pithecus: simian; ape	(-)rhaph(-): suture, seam	-stomy: surgical opening
pituit-: phlegm	rhe(o)-: flowing, current	streph(o)-: twist
placent-: flat cake; placenta	rhexi-: break, burst, rupture	strict-: draw tight, compress
plas-: form; mold; shape	(-)rhin(o)(-): nose	-stringent: draw tight
plasm-, -plast: mold, form	rhiz(o)-: root	strophi-: twist; cord
plat-: broad, flat	rota-: wheel	struct-: pile up (against), build
(-)pleg(-): blow, stroke	-rrhage, -rrhea: flow	sub-, suf-, sup-: under, below
pleo-: more	rube-, rubi-, rubr-: red	super-, supra-: above, beyond
plesi(o)-: near	saggit: arrow	sutur-: sew; stitch; seam
pletho-: fill	salpin-: trumpet; tube	sy(l)-, sym-, syn-: join, together

Word roots

ta-: stretch, put under tension
 tac-: order, arrange
 tach-: swift, rapid, speed
 tact(i)-: touch
 tapein(o)-: flat; low
 taph-: grave, burial
 tax-, -taxis: order, arrange
 tect-, teg-: cover, roof
 tele(o)-: at a distance; end
 tempor-: time, timely; temple
 ten-: hold; stretched
 ter-: thrice, three
 test-: shell; oyster
 tetr-: four
 thec-: repository, case, sheath
 thel(i)-: nipple
 the(o)-: put, place; god
 therap-: treatment; serve
 therm(o)-: heat; summer
 ther/o-: wild animal; wolf
 thi-: sulphur
 thora(co)-: chest
 thromb(o)-: clot

thym(o)-: soul, emotions
 thyr(eo)-: shield
 tme-: cut
 toc(o)-: childbirth
 (-)tom(-): cut, slice; layer
 ton(o)-: stretch; tone
 top(o)-: place, position
 tors-: twist
 toxic-: poison
 trache-: windpipe
 trachel(o)-: neck
 tract-: draw, drag
 trans-: across, over
 trauma(to)-: wound
 tri-: three, third
 trich(o)-: hair
 trips(i)-: rub
 triplo-: three; triad
 (-)trop(-): turn, change, rotate
 (-)troph(-): food, nourishment
 tuber(i)-: swelling, node
 tych-: chance
 typ-, -type: type; image

typh(o)-: fog, stupor
 typhl(o)-: blindness
 ultr-: beyond, excess
 un-: not; one
 ur(o)-, uron(o)-: urine; tail
 -uria: diving bird; urine
 vacc(i)-: cow
 vagin(o)-: sheath
 vas-: vessel, duct
 verm(i)-: worm
 vers, verti-: turn
 vesic(o)-: bladder; blister
 viscer-: organ
 vit(al)-: life
 vor-, -vore: eating, feeding
 vuls-: pull, twitch
 xanth(o)-: yellow, blond
 xen-, -xene: alien; strange
 xer(o)-: dry
 -yl-: matter, substance
 zo-, -zoic, -zoite: animal
 zyg(o)-: yoke, union
 zym(o)-, -zyme: fermentation

Abbreviations

1°, 2°, etc.	primary, secondary, etc.
3-D	three-dimensional
ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
aka	also known as
AMH	anatomically modern human
Ar/Ar	argon–argon dating technique
BCE	Before Common Era
BP	(years) before present
bp	base pair(s)
by	billions of years
bya	billions of years ago
CDC	US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CE	Common Era
cf.	compare
DOE	US Department of Energy
esp.	especially
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
IgM, etc.	immunoglobulin M, etc.
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
K/T	Cretaceous–Tertiary boundary
ky	thousands of years
kya	thousands of years ago
my	millions of years
mya	millions of years ago
SI	Système International d’Unités
TL	thermoluminescence dating technique
U/Th	uranium–thorium dating technique
U-series	uranium series dating technique

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