The Great Migration Guiding Questions/Graphic Organizer

**Directions:** After reading the article “The Great Migration – Why Africans Left Their Homeland” answer the following questions.

1. As you read the article, were there any words you were unable to understand or figure their meaning from the context of what your read? List the words below:

2. According to the author of this article, what is the big question about early man that scientists have been trying to answer for many years?

3. According to the author, what two main theories attempt to answer the question and end the debate?

4. Why have scientists struggled to develop a definite answer either way?

5. What scientific evidence is used today that is helping scientists piece together the story of modern man’s migration across the world?

6. What is one explanation that scientists have given to explain why the remains of early modern man are harder to find than the remains of Neanderthal man? Does this appear to be a guess or a scientific explanation?
7. How did the dry environment of Africa protect scientific evidence for so long?

8. In the past, what factors did scientists think caused early man to move beyond Africa?

9. Based on more current scientific practices of evidence gathering, what environmental changes might have sparked a migration from Africa?

10. When Harvard University archaeologist Ofer Bar-Yosef says “You are always looking for a neat answer, but my feeling is that you should use your imagination,” what do you think he is saying about scientific research related to the story of migration?