**Anthropology Essay – Maya**

Anthropology has traditionally been divided into four subfields: cultural anthropology, archaeology, biological/physical anthropology, and linguistic anthropology. Anthropology in general is a social science that deals with the origins, physical and cultural development, biological characteristics, social customs, and beliefs of humankind.

The first subfield is cultural anthropology, which is the study of human societies and cultures and their development. Cultural anthropologists take pictures and videos, ask questions about the history, do interviews, in general they study a culture’s way of living. Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Margaret Mead (1901-1978) was a cultural anthropologist who studied the people of Oceania. She was also an activist for social issues. She thought care and healing was the mark of human civilization as evidenced by the broken thigh bone.

The second subfield is archaeology, which is the study of human history and the analysis of artifacts and other physical remains. Archaeologists use large and small hand tools such as shovels, mattocks, and spades to dig up the artifacts. They have to be very careful finding the artifacts because some are very delicate and fragile. Some famous anthropological finds are fossils that were discovered in Europe in 1829. The scientists wanted to understand how old these fossils were and how they came to be. In 2017, archaeologists found the oldest fossils of homo sapiens in Morocco. They found an adult hominin’s fossil jawbone. The stratigraphic date of 300,000 years ago. Archaeologists also discovered that humans arrived in Australia 65,000 years ago.

The third subfield is biological anthropology, also known as physical, which is the study of human biological and physical characteristics and their development. Most physical anthropologists study nonhuman primates such as chimpanzees. Born in London, Jane Goodall (1934-) is a primatologist who studied biological and physical anthropology. She studied wild chimpanzees in Tanzania. The documentary *Jane: The Hope* (2017) tells her life story as a conservationist and animal rights activist. She shared a message during Covid-19, “Leave wild animals alone”.

The fourth subfield of anthropology is linguistic anthropology, which is the study of human languages from various cultures throughout history. Linguistic anthropologists examine the ways in which languages and spiritual dances provide insight into the native and evolution of culture and human society. Born in Minden, Germany, Franz Boas (1858-1942) was a linguistic anthropologist. His work is associated with the movements known as Historical Particularism and cultural relativism. Boas described race as an artificial construction with no relation to behavior. He is considered the founder of modern anthropology.

Anthropology Is a hard subject. Archaeologists don't know when they are digging if they hit something too hard and it ends up breaking, now the whole artifact is gone and they can’t study its remains. Cultural anthropology is also one of the hard subfields because the anthropologist goes in with a respectful mindset. Anthropologists are not aware of their biased perspectives so they may hurt another culture. The anthropologist brings unnecessary things such as electronics and electricity. The modern anthropologist’s mindset is imposed on the cultural group and the cultural group’s is changed and their survival is compromised.

Great job! The only thing I ask of you if to add a work cited. If you don’t know how to do that just add the links that you used for your research at the end of your essay! That’s how you protect yourself from plagiarism! ☺ THANK YOU SO MUCH! This is great!