

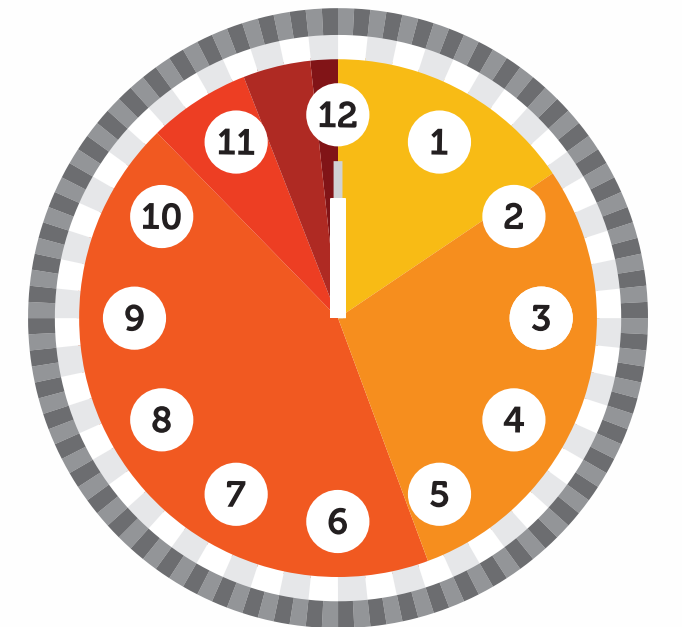
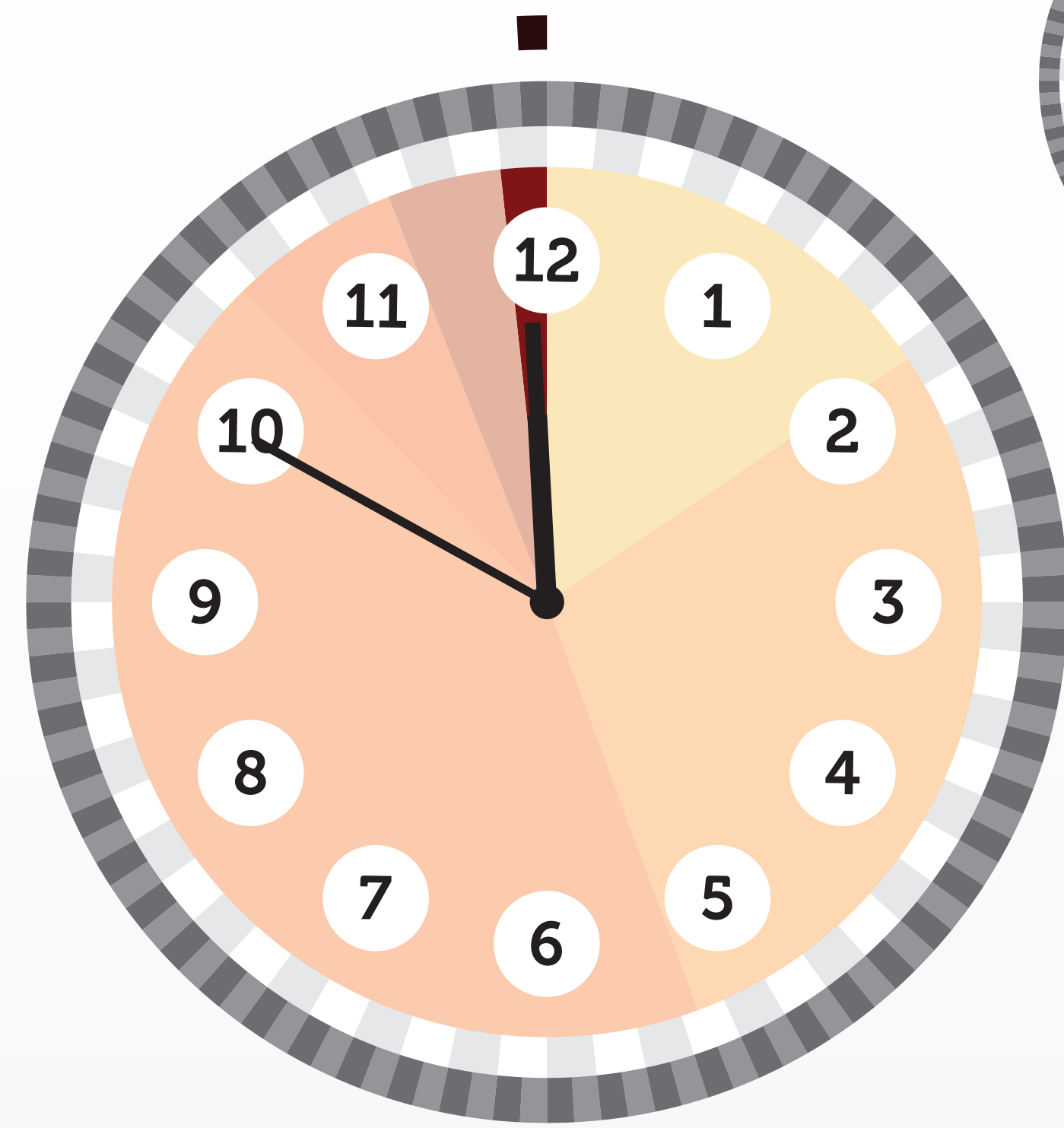
# Important events in evolution

## Significant events which impacted the history of Earth

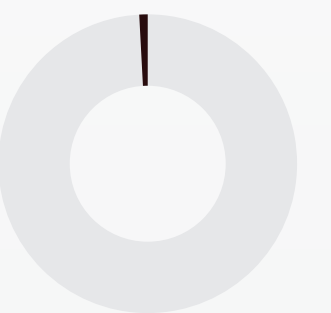
**1 million years ago**

Africans similar to modern humans went out of Africa

11:59:50 HRS



Mankind appeared



**No one knows the precise history of our ancestors around 2 million years ago due to the scarcity of the fossils. What we do know is that by 1 million years ago, they already inhabited vast areas of Africa, Europe, and Asia. The species are *Homo heidelbergensis* and *Homo antecessor*. Researchers believe they originated from *Homo ergaster* in Africa and are thought to be the ancestors of the Neanderthals.**

Their foremost characteristic is an increase in brain volume that brought them within the range of modern *Homo sapiens*.

We know they are not the same type of human as *Homo erectus*. Instead, they are an isolated population with features that gave them a reproductive advantage over the descendants of *Homo erectus* who had left Africa a million years earlier.

Those who support this "Out of Africa" theory, occurring about 1 million years ago, argue that these individuals quickly replaced those Erectus populations that had survived in Europe and Asia.

A second migration from Africa occurred around 50,000 years ago, when a not very large population of fully modern humans with culture and technology, initiated the conquest of the whole planet.