

Contents

Preface	viii
Preamble	x

1. Evolution to the advent of the mammals	1
Formation of the Universe and the Earth	1
Appearance of life	2
The Cambrian explosion of diverse life forms	9
The first chordates and vertebrates	10
The first tetrapods	13
The earliest mammals	15
Summary and conclusions	19
Further readings	19
2. Primates to hominids and the advent of bipedalism	21
The Primates	21
The hominoids	22
The hominid lineage	24
The advent of bipedalism	26
Obstetrics and the pelvis	32
Summary and conclusions	34
Further readings	35
3. Evolution of the genus <i>Homo</i>	37
<i>Homo habilis</i>	37
<i>Homo erectus</i>	40

Archaic <i>Homo sapiens</i> and the Neanderthals	44
The morphology and origin of anatomically modern <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i>	48
Evidence from molecular biology	50
Migration and expansion	56
Summary and conclusions	56
Further readings	57
4. Art, culture, and prehistory	59
The art and culture of the Mousterian and Acheulian	59
The art of the European Upper Palaeolithic	66
The psychology of art, ancient and recent	71
Summary and conclusions	74
Further readings	75
5. Language and communication	77
The coevolution of genotype and language	77
The prehistory of spoken language	79
Language, speech, and communication	81
(How) did language evolve?	83
Critical periods and speech perception	87
Categorical perception	89
Categorization in nonhuman communication	91
Language mediation by a distributed network	91
Apes and language	93
A view of language evolution	99
Gesture and language	101
Summary and conclusions	102
Further readings	103
6. The central and peripheral realization of speech	105
Speech and articulation	105
The supralaryngeal vocal tract in apes and humans	107
The supralaryngeal tract in apes and neanderthals	109
Did <i>Homo habilis</i> possess speech-related areas in the brain?	111
Speech-related areas and aphasia in <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i>	111
Category specificity and semantic representation	117
Neuroimaging and speech localization	118
Summary and conclusions	119
Further readings	120
7. Tool use and praxis	123
Hands and tools	123
Nonhuman tool use	125
Hominid tool use	129
Movement, the frontal-basal ganglia circuits, and praxis	133

Apraxia: the loss of the ability to use tools	138
Praxis, tool use, and language evolution: is a synthesis possible?	140
Summary and conclusions	142
Further readings	143
8. Encephalization and the growth of the brain	145
The allometric ratio	145
The growth of encephalization in the fossil record	146
Laminar and columnar organization in the cortex	147
Neurogenesis and brain-body growth and development	147
Plastic reorganization in the adult brain	151
Whole-object recognition and "binding"	152
Brain size and intellectual capacity	153
Summary and conclusions	154
Further readings	155
9. Intelligence, social intelligence, consciousness, and self-awareness	157
The evolution of intelligence	157
The theory of Machiavellian intelligence	163
Self-recognition in mirrors and self-awareness	170
Consciousness	173
Summary and conclusions	178
Further readings	179
10. An overview	181
Postscript	197
References	199
Author index	221
Subject index	232