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Early humans were using fire and migration in adaptation to serial glaciations; in Europe this period may have been between the Gunz and the Mindel Ice Ages. Language was probably already in use though the earliest art we have evidence of today is approximately 40,000 years old. The Air Bubble Period preceded all of human industry and urban organizations, even organized agriculture, but the foundational ecosystems of earth were already well-established. The biggest difference between now and then is human population. Fossil records don't show us how many individuals were walking around as much as their distribution but most of the earth was pristine of human contact. As those of us walking around today can now see a near horizon of eight billion people alive at once most of the earth has been touched by anthropogenic effects, except in one realm.

Of the nearly 2 billion years of life that elaborated itself before hominid development the most fundamental, microbial, is still thriving. Probably it's the only strata of life that is unlikely to be annihilated by accelerating levels of carbon dioxide in earth's atmosphere. Since microbes were first and have always been dominant perhaps there's some comfort in this idea but it would be a lot more interesting from the human vantage point if we could hasten our adaptation before all life that's not sub-visible disappears.

#### Sources

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