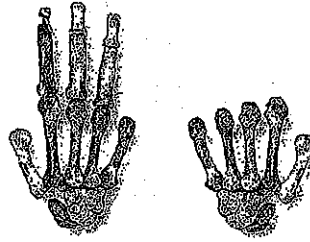


## MCAS PROMPT

Read the Selection  
Answer "How Lucy inspired  
Lee Berger. Provide three  
examples of text evidence  
to support your answer"

### CHAPTER THREE **LUCY**



**On November 24, 1974**, at the end of a morning of fossil hunting in Ethiopia, a young paleoanthropologist named Donald Johanson followed a hunch to look in one more spot and saw first an arm bone, then a leg bone, then ribs. And then it hit him—there in the earth was nearly the entire skeleton of something, someone—which turned out to be Lucy, an ancestor from 3.2 million years ago. After carefully describing his find to the scientific world, Johanson told his personal story to the general public in a book simply called *Lucy*. *Lucy* changed Lee's life.

In his typical way, Lee had been on a roller coaster of ups and downs: he got into Vanderbilt, a fine university, on a Navy scholarship, then dropped out when he realized he was never going to be the lawyer or politician his parents imagined. He experimented with working in TV news and even became a national hero when he rescued a woman who was drowning. But his heart was not in chasing after police cars and filming local events. Back in college at Georgia Southern he began to picture himself as a dinosaur hunter, looking for the fossils of the next *T.-rex*. And then one afternoon at the library, he saw *Lucy*.

*Lucy* tells the story of how the author found "our oldest human ancestor... and who she was." From the first page on, Johanson, a serious, skilled paleoanthropologist, talks about "training your eye to see what you need to see," and being lucky. Training your

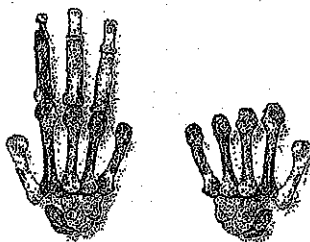
After Lucy was fully excavated, experts working with an artist created this plausible reconstruction (OPPOSITE) of what she might have looked like when she walked the Earth 3.2 million years ago.



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