

**Student Comprehension Worksheet**

**Directions:** Read the online *Science News* article "[Female big-game hunters may have been surprisingly common in the ancient Americas](#)," and answer the following questions. A version of the story, "Early American women hunted game," can be found in the December 5, 2020 issue of *Science News*.

- 1. What new information did researchers uncover in the Andes Mountains of Peru?**
- 2. Why is this discovery notable?**
- 3. What conclusion do the researchers make based on this and other discoveries?**
- 4. After the recent discovery, what additional evidence was used to create the researchers' conclusion? Explain.**
- 5. How have researchers typically viewed women in ancient hunter-gatherer societies? How is the finding challenging notions of ancient gender roles?**
- 6. What does archaeologist Ashley Smallwood say about the relationship between modern and ancient gender roles?**
- 7. What does archaeologist Patricia Lambert say about the researchers' findings?**
- 8. What other discoveries may contribute to changing views of ancient gender roles? Explain.**

**9. The following sentence from the *Science News* article contains a literary device: “The dominance of male hunters in modern hunter-gatherer populations has fueled a tendency to, in essence, give ancient men the spearpoint and ancient women the short end of the stick.” What is the device? Rewrite the sentence so that it conveys the same information without using the literary device.**