






# Violent Death: Forensic Research on Narrabeen Man

Research Question	<u>Question 1:</u> Where did he live? How old are his remains?	<u>Question 2:</u> How did he die?	<u>Question 3:</u> What does the evidence tell us about how he lived?
<u>Source 1</u> <a href="#">Video</a> 			
Source 2 Dr Jo McDonald 			
Source 3 Allen Madden 			

## Source 1 – “Catalyst” Video (Actually a Collection of Several Sources)

✚ Match the questions and answers by drawing branches, then transfer the information into Row 1 above.

Question	Answer
How long ago did Narrabeen man live?	<input type="radio"/> His diet included many fish and <b>marine foods</b> .
Where did Narrabeen man live?	<input type="radio"/> She began a scientific or <b>forensic</b> process to determine when and how he had died.
What were the main foods that he ate?	<input type="radio"/> He was much taller than average and he had died a violent death rather than being buried.
What kind of process did Dr Jo McDonald, the <b>archaeologist</b> , begin?	<input type="radio"/> A spear tip was found in his backbone.
How is Narrabeen man believed to have died?	<input type="radio"/> He was a <b>coastal</b> dweller in the Sydney area (long before Sydney existed).
What was embedded in his <b>vertebrae</b> ?	<input type="radio"/> He appears to have been the victim of a <b>ritualized killing</b> .
In what ways was this man unusual?	<input type="radio"/> A wooden shaft, <b>resin</b> and stone chips are believed to be part of this kind of weapon.
What are <b>death spears</b> made of?	<input type="radio"/> His nose and teeth were similar to those of other Aboriginal human remains.
Which sign indicated that boys in this area had been <b>initiated</b> into manhood?	<input type="radio"/> Narrabeen man lived about 4000 years ago, according to <b>carbon dating</b> .
Which aspects of the skeleton suggested that it was that of an <b>indigenous</b> man?	<input type="radio"/> Their two top teeth were knocked out, a widely known <b>initiation ritual</b> .

## Source 2 – Dr Jo McDonald, archaeologist

### a First reading:

- ✚ Another phrase for **backbone**:
- ✚ Another word for **fast**:
- ✚ Another word for **slow**:

### b Second reading:

- ✚ Highlight one clear, DEFINITE CONCLUSION in the document.
- ✚✚ Highlight two PIECES OF EVIDENCE.
- ✚ Find one CONCLUSION that is POSSIBLE, but not CERTAIN.



It doesn't appear to be a burial at all.

It looked as though he'd been flung on the ground. He had one arm across his neck and his head had been shifted off the top of his vertebral column. Most formal burials that you find in Australia are in particular postures and this certainly wasn't one of them.

Death may have been swift if an artery was pierced by a spear or from a head injury caused by a blow to the head.

Death may have been lingering if the bowel was pierced or if the head wounds were not instantly fatal.

## Source 3 – Allen Madden, Aboriginal Cultural and Educational Officer

### a First reading:

- ✚ A phrase for **growing up ceremony**:
- ✚ A word for **a theory not based on firm evidence**:

### b Second reading:

- ✚ Form 2-3 **possible conclusions** about Aboriginal culture in this area 4000 years ago. Refer to law, punishment, weapons, foods, lifestyle, etc. Write your conclusions in the table on the other side of this page.



He hadn't been initiated. If he had been, he would have had his two front teeth removed or knocked out. That was the initiation ritual in the Sydney basin that a lot of the young boys went through to become men.

He must have done something very bad...What he did would only be speculation on my behalf.

The most common spear around this area was the fishing spear. You had ceremonial spears here, then hunting spears for different animals. There were different tips that would penetrate and couldn't come out. That was the same with death spears.