Interpreting Evidence from Pictures

Rock paintings are an important source of evidence. Many archaeologists believe that rock paintings were religious paintings which were painted by the San during a *trance dance*. The hunter-gatherers believed that somebody in a trance had special powers and could heal the sick and bring peace to the group. Look at these photos of rock painting and answer the questions that follow:



- 1. List the different kinds of animals you can see in the pictures.
- 2. What do YOU think the people in picture C are doing?
- 3. Rock paintings are important. Never touch them, throw water on them or write on them. Why should you never do any of these things to rock paintings?
- 4. Why do you think there are laws to protect rock paintings?
- 5. Discuss picture D in detail.
- 6. Which South African World Heritage Site is renowned for San rock art?
- 7. Design your own rock art showing a celebratory meal after a successful hunt. Use the template below to plan and then reproduce your design on an A4 sheet of paper.

