1. Studies of animal based subsistence strategies in the Late Neolithic of Northern Syria are severely hampered by a lack of well dated and comprehensively analysed faunal assemblages (Chapter 3).

2. Not only were animals an integral part of subsistence systems in the Late Neolithic but it is likely that they were an inseparable part of how identities were constructed (Chapter 8).

3. By the end of the seventh millennium BC, domestic pastoral animals such as sheep, goats and cattle formed the basis of the animal based subsistence system (Chapter 8).

4. Disentangling the intricately interwoven cultural and environmental causes of change through time is an extremely difficult if not impossible task (Chapter 4).

5. To completely ignore climate change as a potential factor affecting social behaviour in the Holocene one would have to disregard an increasing number of regional and global palaeoclimate reconstructions and ever-increasing archaeological evidence.

6. The perception of an area as marginal depends more on social and socio-economic factors than on any inherent quality of environmental marginality.

7. Cross-discipline collaborations and discussions often produce a far more informed picture than any single discipline approach alone.

8. The modern political situation in the Near East makes bringing large amounts archaeological material, such as faunal remains, into Europe for post-excavation analyses very difficult, often limiting the scope of research.

9. When recording thousands of faunal remains for months on end in a dig house in Syria a strong mind, as well as a strong stomach, is highly recommended.

10. Completing a PhD is as much about perseverance and hard work as it is about intelligence.