


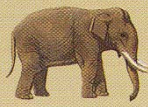
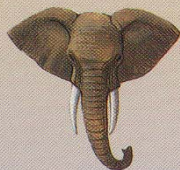





MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE AFRICAN AND THE ASIAN ELEPHANT		
	AFRICAN <i>(Loxodonta africana)</i>	ASIAN <i>(Elephas maximus)</i>
		
Weight	4,000–7,000 kilograms (8,820–15,430 pounds)	3,000–5,000 kilograms (6,615–11,020 pounds)
Height at shoulder	3–4 meters (10–13 feet)	2–3.5 meters (6 feet 7 inches–11 feet 6 inches)
Skin	More wrinkled	Smoother
Number of ribs	Up to 21 pairs	Up to 20 pairs
Highest point	At top of shoulder	At top of head
Size of ears (pinnae)	Larger, do exceed height of neck	Smaller, do not exceed height of neck
In mature individuals dorsal of pinnae	Fold medially	Fold laterally
Shape of back	Concave	Convex or level
Shape of belly	Slopes diagonally downwards from front to back	Either almost horizontal or "sagging" in the middle
Shape of head	No compression; no bulges, no dish	Compressed antero-posteriorly; has dorsal bulges, dished forehead
		
Teeth	Lozenge-shaped loops	Narrow compressed loops
		
Food	Mostly browser	Mostly grazer
Tusks	Both sexes possess tusks; larger in males	Males usually carry tusks; in females tusks are vestigial or absent
Trunk	Has more rings (annulated) Less rigid	Appears to have less annulation More rigid
Tip of trunk	Two "fingers"	One "finger"
		
Number of nail-like structures (toes)	Forefeet 4 or 5 Hind feet 3, 4 or 5	Forefeet 5 Hind feet 4 or 5

Figure 18. Major Differences Between the African and the Asian Elephant