

REVISED COVID-19

Assignment: Write a review of a presentation aimed at the popular understanding of evolution. You have three options:

1. Read a book:

- These books are written by an evolutionary developmental (evo-devo) biologist. It is his mission in life to explain evolution to the general public.
 - o Sean B. Carroll, Remarkable Creatures
 - o Sean B. Carroll, The Making of the Fittest
 - o Sean B. Carroll, Endless Forms Most Beautiful
 - o Sean B. Carroll, The Serengeti Rules
- This is an excellent read about how the discovery of fossils can tell us about our own evolution. The author is a University of Chicago paleontologist and former director of the Field Museum of Natural History, so there is a Chicago connection here.
 - o Neil Shubin, Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5-billion Year History of the Human Body
- Choose your own book to read:
 - o Go to www.amazon.com and type in *evolution* in the search box. You will get >50,000 choices! Find one that interests you and get it approved by your professor before you purchase it.

2. Instead of reading Neil Shubin's book, watch the 3-part PBS series that was aired a few years ago.

- The series is available for viewing at the following web site:
<http://www.hhmi.org/biointeractive/your-inner-fish-series>
- There are three films in the series:
 - o Your Inner Fish
 - o Your Inner Reptile
 - o Your Inner Monkey

Minimum requirements for your report:**1. Format**

- Use word-processing software, 11-12 point font, double-space and 1-inch margins.
- Proofread for grammar and spelling.
- Write in paragraphs.
- Page length should be ~4-6 pages, plus an outline/timeline on a separate page. Page length does not cover page, figures or list of references. Be sure you cover the content required.

2. Content

- Cover page: Your name, date, class and section.
- Introduction: open the report with an overview of the subject matter: Evolution
 - o State the thesis of your report.
- Body: include enough detail to demonstrate that you understand evolution
 - o Be sure you describe/define what evolution is. Give examples of evolution.
 - o Evolution occurs primarily by natural selection, Darwin's original idea. Explain how evolution happens. Give examples if possible
 - o Science is about evidence. Go into detail about particular evidence presented that support the concept of evolution.

- Conclusion: provide a judgment about whether the book or pbs series did a good job at explaining evolution to a non-scientist. Support your conclusion with specific examples. State emphatically whether or not you recommend the book to others interested in the topic.
3. Research: any good reporter does his/her research about the event to be reported.
 - Make connections to research that you have done. your textbook, web sites, etc.
 - Sources must be listed in appropriate format at the end of your report. Consult a handbook or get advice at the Writing Center if you are unfamiliar with the proper format of references. Standard APA formatting for college term papers can be found at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>
 4. Do your own work. Plagiarism is not an option. See your student handbook regarding University policy on plagiarism. If you plagiarize any portion of your paper, you may receive a grade of zero.

Scoring Rubric

	Points	Points Earned
Attendance and submission of paper on deadline	20	
Format	15	
Cover page, layout, font	5	
Grammar: spelling, sentence/paragraph structure	10	
Introduction	20	
Description of overall book or video	5	
Outline of entire book or video	10	
Statement of your thesis	5	
Primary content	30	
Explanation of evolution with examples	10	
Explanation of natural selection with examples	10	
Presentation of scientific evidence for evolution	10	
Conclusion	5	
Judgment of exhibit and summary of argument	5	
Research	10	
Evidence of connections to text, class, outside research	5	
List of sources/references in proper format	5	
TOTAL	100	