

Was Darwin Wrong? Reading Guide

Read the following questions before you start reading the article. As you read, answer each question according to the information in the article. ENJOY!

1. What is the definition of "scientific theory"? How does this differ from the English language definition of theory?
2. Describe Charles Darwin's "Principle of Divergence."
3. What event led Darwin to publish his "quick & dirty abstract" *The Origin of Species*?
4. Richard Owen advanced the idea of homologues. Describe this idea and discuss at least one example of homologous structures.
5. Discuss the evolution of Staphylococcus aureus. What are the implications of this for the field of medicine?
6. In the passage describing Gingerich's whale research, the author discusses the change in evolutionary thought brought about by the discovery of the astragalus (ankle bone). Summarize this change in thought.
7. Reflect on the article as a whole. What are your thoughts regarding the theory of evolution? Do you feel that there is sufficient evidence to accept the idea of evolution by natural selection. If your answer is no, what evidence would it take to convince you?