

# Biology Exam 1 Study Guide

## Lecture 1 → Introduction to Biological Science

### Tree of Life

- Domains
  - Eukarya → visible life
    - Split into animals and plants
    - Very small portion
  - Bacteria → single cell
    - Make up most of life's branches
    - Symbionts that evolved into mitochondria and chloroplasts were eubacteria
  - Archaea → original domain of life
    - More closely related to eukaryotes than eubacteria, first branch of life
    - Basic split between archaea and bacteria
- Candidate phyla radiation: Single species have been identified, each identifies an entire phylum which is yet to be understood - pioneer species (tree is dominated by new species that scientists have never seen before)
- Species disappearing faster than can be recovered
- Eukaryotes and archaea are most closely related branches



### Destruction and Mass Extinction

- One million species face imminent extinction because of humans
- Recent past → >50% vertebrates/>75% flying insects lost in the past <50 years
- Critically threatened → >40% amphibians, >30% plants/corals/sharks, >25% mammals
- Populations and extinctions have increased

### Theory of Evolution

- Evolution: all life on earth evolved from a common ancestor, most properties within cells work in the same way, the change in gene distribution over time within a population
- Theory: a very well substantiated idea that explains many overlapping phenomena at once, wide-ranging, strongest. Not a hypothesis
- Darwin: species arise through random mutation and natural selection for fitness
- Evidence (fewer than 40% of Americans believe in evolution)
  - fossil record shows conservation of homologous structures
  - Molecular proof: same DNA and RNA protein in cells
  - Homologous function in hands and fins → evolved similar mechanisms in appendages
- Scopes Monkey Trial
  - Scopes taught evolution illegally; resulted in Butler Act → forbid teaching evolution in TN
- Endosymbiont theory
  - Single composite cell of greater complexity could evolve from two or more separate simpler living cells in a symbiotic relationship

### Year of Earth's History

- 1 Jan: earth formed 4.54 bya by acceleration of material from the solar nebula via gravitational collapse, conditions were incompatible with life, bombarded with asteroid-sized meteors for 800 million years
- 4 Mar: by 3.8 bya bombardment had slowed, Earth had cooled to lower the temps "compatible" with life

# Biology Populations Study Guide

**D Kirk**



## **Biology Populations Study Guide:**

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### Table of Contents **Biology Populations Study Guide**

1. Understanding the eBook Biology Populations Study Guide
  - The Rise of Digital Reading Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Exploring Different Genres
  - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
  - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
  - Popular eBook Platforms
  - Features to Look for in an Biology Populations Study Guide
  - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Personalized Recommendations
  - Biology Populations Study Guide User Reviews and Ratings
  - Biology Populations Study Guide and Bestseller Lists

5. Accessing Biology Populations Study Guide Free and Paid eBooks
  - Biology Populations Study Guide Public Domain eBooks
  - Biology Populations Study Guide eBook Subscription Services
  - Biology Populations Study Guide Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Biology Populations Study Guide eBook Formats
  - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
  - Biology Populations Study Guide Compatibility with Devices
  - Biology Populations Study Guide Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
  - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Highlighting and Note-Taking Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Interactive Elements Biology Populations Study Guide
8. Staying Engaged with Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Joining Online Reading Communities
  - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
  - Following Authors and Publishers Biology Populations Study Guide
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Benefits of a Digital Library
  - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Biology Populations Study Guide
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
  - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
  - Minimizing Distractions
  - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Setting Reading Goals Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Biology Populations Study Guide
  - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning

- Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
- Exploring Educational eBooks

#### 14. Embracing eBook Trends

- Integration of Multimedia Elements
- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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