Dean Gladish Biology 173, Period 8 Mrs. Dillon September 28, 2012

1. Is evolution a random process?

The genetic mutations in on which evolution acts upon occur randomly. Evolution itself is not a random process. The survival of an organism is dependent on whether it is able to survive in the specific environment in which it lives. The evolution of an species depends on what traits it passes on to the next generation.

2. How are modern humans and Neanderthals related?

Modern humans and Neanderthals coexisted with modern humans from Africa. It is possible that during this time period humans interbred with Neanderthals. Science has proven that Neanderthals and modern humans evolved from a common ancestor, but they are not genetically identical.

3. Does evolution proceed toward increasing complexity?

Evolution appears to result in not only complex structures but also simpler structures. Evolution does not necessarily result in a complex organism. Simpler organisms such as algae, bacteria, yeast, and fungi are examples of this.

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