

Survey of Evolutionary Knowledge and Attitudes

This survey asks you questions about your knowledge of various aspects of evolution as well as attitudes about and related topics.

Section A: Evolutionary Terms

The following are all terms related to evolution.

Please place an “x” next to each term or concept you are familiar with:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cenozoic era | <input type="checkbox"/> Pleistocene | <input type="checkbox"/> fossil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dinosaur | <input type="checkbox"/> natural selection | <input type="checkbox"/> Gregor Mendel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> carbon dating | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Homo sapiens</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> adaptive radiation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> microevolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Darwin | <input type="checkbox"/> genetics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australopithecine | <input type="checkbox"/> DNA | <input type="checkbox"/> catastrophism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> macroevolution | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Homo erectus</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> RNA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bipedalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Scopes trial | <input type="checkbox"/> punctuated equilibrium |
| <input type="checkbox"/> endocast | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Australopithecus afarensis</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Neanderthal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> selective breeding | | <input type="checkbox"/> speciation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> evolution | | <input type="checkbox"/> extinction |

Section B: Evolutionary Acceptance

**For each item below, please indicate your agreement/disagreement
with the given statements using the following scale:**

1	2	3	4	5
Disagree Strongly	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Agree Strongly

- ___1. Organisms existing today are the result of evolutionary processes that have occurred over millions of years.
- ___2. The theory of evolution is incapable of being scientifically tested.
- ___3. Modern humans are the product of evolutionary processes that have occurred over millions of years.
- ___4. The theory of evolution is based on speculation and not valid scientific observation and testing.
- ___5. Most scientists accept evolutionary theory to be a scientifically valid theory.
- ___6. The available data are unclear as to whether evolution actually occurs.
- ___7. The age of the earth is less than 20,000 years.
- ___8. There is a significant body of data that supports evolutionary theory.
- ___9. Organisms exist today in essentially the same form in which they always have.
- ___10. Evolution is not a scientifically valid theory.
- ___11. The age of the earth is at least 4 billion years.
- ___12. Current evolutionary theory is the result of sound scientific research and methodology.
- ___13. Evolutionary theory generates testable predictions with respect to the characteristics of life.
- ___14. The theory of evolution cannot be correct since it disagrees with the Biblical account of creation.
- ___15. Humans exist today in essentially the same form in which they always have.
- ___16. Evolutionary theory is supported by factual historical and laboratory data.
- ___17. Much of the scientific community doubts if evolution occurs.
- ___18. The theory of evolution brings meaning to the diverse characteristics and behaviors observed in living forms.
- ___19. With few exceptions, organisms on earth came into existence at about the same time.
- ___20. Evolution is a scientifically valid theory.

1 Disagree Strongly	2 Disagree	3 Neither agree nor disagree	4 Agree	5 Agree Strongly
____ 30. Evolution is a theory in crisis.				____ 47. There was a time when humans and dinosaurs lived on Earth together.
____ 31. I've watched evolution related videos on the web (e.g., Ted.com, YouTube).				____ 48. Life begins at conception
____ 32. My political views influence my daily life.				____ 49. My religion influences my decisions.
____ 33. Humans share more than half of their genes with mice.				____ 50. People who accept evolution as fact are immoral.
____ 34. In general, I am conservative on economic issues such as welfare, taxation, and free-market policies.				____ 51. As a child, I attended science and nature camps (e.g., Outdoor Ed Lab, local nature centers or zoos).
____ 35. Mutations occur all the time.				____ 52. All stages of human life– embryo, fetus, child, adult– should have the same legal protections.
____ 36. For scientific evidence to be deemed adequate, it must be reproducible by others.				____ 53. The theory of evolution has contributed to sexism.
____ 37. The Earth isn't old enough for evolution to have taken place.				____ 54. If you accept evolution, you really can't believe in God.
____ 38. Increased genetic variability makes a population more resistant to extinction.				____ 55. Natural selection cannot create complex structures; It is like a tornado blowing through a junkyard and creating a 747.
____ 39. There is no evidence that humans evolved from other animals.				____ 56. I am a religious person.
____ 40. The data used to support evolution is untrustworthy.				____ 57. I am a conservative person.
____ 41. Scientific explanations can be supernatural.				____ 58. Characteristics acquired during the lifetime of an organism are passed down to that individual's offspring.
____ 42. Politically, I identify myself as a liberal.				____ 59. Evolutionary theory is highly relevant for the humanities (e.g., history, literature, philosophy).
____ 43. I received training in evolution in high school.				____ 60. The theory of evolution has contributed to genocide (the deliberate killing of a group based on nationality, race, politics, or culture).
____ 44. I have visited natural history museums on field trips or with family.				____ 61. Evolution is a linear progression from primitive to advanced species.
____ 45. All modern species of land vertebrates are descended from those original animals on the ark.				
____ 46. Good theories give rise to testable predictions.				

Section D: The Big Five Inventory (BFI)

Here are a number of characteristics that may or may not apply to you. For example, do you agree that you are someone who likes to spend time with others? Please write a number next to each statement to indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with that statement.

1	2	3	4	5
Disagree Strongly	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Agree Strongly

I see Myself as Someone Who....

- | | |
|--|---|
| ___ 1. Is talkative | ___ 23. Tends to be lazy |
| ___ 2. Tends to find fault with others | ___ 24. Is emotionally stable, not easily upset |
| ___ 3. Does a thorough job | ___ 25. Is inventive |
| ___ 4. Is depressed, blue | ___ 26. Has an assertive personality |
| ___ 5. Is original, comes up with new ideas | ___ 27. Can be cold and aloof |
| ___ 6. Is reserved | ___ 28. Perseveres until the task is done |
| ___ 7. Is helpful and unselfish with others | ___ 29. Can be moody |
| ___ 8. Can be somewhat careless | ___ 30. Values artistic, aesthetic experiences |
| ___ 9. Is relaxed, handles stress well | ___ 31. Is sometimes shy, inhibited |
| ___ 10. Is curious about many different things | ___ 32. Is considerate and kind to almost everyone |
| ___ 11. Is full of energy | ___ 33. Does things efficiently |
| ___ 12. Starts quarrels with others | ___ 34. Remains calm in tense situations |
| ___ 13. Is a reliable worker | ___ 35. Prefers works that is routine |
| ___ 14. Can be tense | ___ 36. Is outgoing, sociable |
| ___ 15. Is ingenious, a deep thinker | ___ 37. Is sometimes rude to others |
| ___ 16. Generates a lot of enthusiasm | ___ 38. Makes plans and follows through with them |
| ___ 17. Has a forgiving nature | ___ 39. Gets nervous easily |
| ___ 18. Tends to be disorganized | ___ 40. Likes to reflect, play with ideas |
| ___ 19. Worries a lot | ___ 41. Has few artistic interests |
| ___ 20. Has an active imagination | ___ 42. Likes to cooperate with others |
| ___ 21. Tends to be quiet | ___ 43. Is easily distracted |
| ___ 22. Is generally trusting | ___ 44. Is sophisticated in art, music, or literature |

Section E: Knowledge of Science

**For each item below, please indicate your agreement/disagreement
with the given statements using the following scale:**

1	2	3	4	5
Disagree Strongly	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Agree Strongly

1. The theory of evolution must deny the existence of a creator God.				

2. Scientists must limit their investigations to the natural world.				

3. Any scientific findings that contradict Biblical Scripture should be discarded.				

4. As a result of scientific methods, definite conclusions can be made as to the absolute and ultimate cause behind an event.				

5. Science can never reach absolute truth about a particular phenomenon in nature.				

6. Science is well prepared to investigate the validity of miracles.				

7. A fact in science is a truth which can never be changed.				

8. Science is responsible for improving the quality of life for man.				

9. The scientist is limited in observing only what he can see with the naked eye.				

10. Scientists must be accepting of all findings of their fellow researchers.				

11. Scientific experiments must be repeatedly performed in the laboratory to be considered valid.				

12. To make any scientific determinations about historic occurrences in nature, there must be direct observations.				

13. Random chance means that a particular phenomenon occurs by accident.				

14. The initial step of the scientific method is to test a hypothesis.				

15. A theory has been substantiated by many scientific facts.				

16. A hypothesis is a guess based on a premonition.				

17. A scientific law has been shown to be true by repeated observations and experimentation.				

18. If an experiment gives results which are contradictory to the hypothesis, then the experiment should be changed.				

19. A hypothesis must be capable of being tested in order for it to truly be in the realm of science.				

20. A hypothesis which has been validated by an experiment is elevated to the level of theory.				

Section G: Background Information

These last questions ask a little bit about you and your background.

1. How old are you (in years)? _____ 2. What is your sex? _____
3. What is your Ethnicity?
- 3a. Are you of Hispanic Origin? _____
- 4a. If you are religious, please write your denomination (e.g., Roman Catholic, Methodist, Sunni) below.
If you do not consider yourself a member of any particular religion, write "none".

- 4b. How Important is church in your life?
5. How often do you go to church?
6. What is your net college GPA (Grade Point Average; circle one)?

0.0-0.9	1.0-1.9	2.0-2.4	2.5-2.9	3.0-3.4	3.5-4.0
<i>(Mostly Fs)</i>	<i>(Mostly Ds)</i>	<i>(Mostly Cs)</i>	<i>(Mix of Cs and Bs)</i>	<i>(Mostly Bs)</i>	<i>(Mostly As, some Bs)</i>
7. What is your college major or concentration?
8. How many science classes have you taken in college? _____
9. How many biology classes have you taken in college? _____
10. How would you rank your interest in science in general?

1	2	3	4	5
<i>Not at all interested</i>	<i>Mostly uninterested</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Somewhat interested</i>	<i>Very interested</i>
11. What is the highest level of schooling your mother completed (circle one)?

<i>Less than high school Degree</i>	<i>High School Diploma or GED 4-Year Degree</i>	<i>Some College Graduate Education</i>	<i>2-Year</i>
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12. What is the highest level of schooling your father completed (circle one)?

<i>Less than high school Degree</i>	<i>High School Diploma or GED 4-Year Degree</i>	<i>Some College Graduate Education</i>	<i>2-Year</i>
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13. Think of where you lived a majority of your life from ages 5 to 15. Would you describe it as rural, suburban, or urban?