

Vocab for General Bio II: Part 1-Chapter 13 Sections 1-9

Charles Darwin- Made theory of evolution, published *On the origins of Species by Means of Natural Selection*. His Birthday was Feb. 12

Adaptations- diverse modifications that fit them to specific ways of life in their environment

Theory- A widely accepted explanatory idea that is broader in scope than a hypothesis, generates a hypothesis and is supported by a large body of evidence

Evolution- The idea that living species are descendants of one ancestral species that was different from present day ones.

Fossils- Imprints or remains of past living organisms

Strata-New layers of sediment cover old ones and compress them into layers of rock

Paleontologists- Scientists that study fossils when erosion carves into strata

Homology-similar characteristics resulting from common ancestors

Homologous structures-features that often have different functions but are similar structures because of a common ancestry

Molecular biology- The study of the molecular basis of gene expression

Vestigial structure- the remnants of features that served important functions in the organisms ancestors

Evolutionary tree- tree representing the descendants of a species

Artificial selection-Selective breeding of domesticated plants and animals to promote the occurrence of desirable traits in the offspring

Thomas Malthus- Contended human suffering is the consequence of human population increasing faster than food and other resources

Gregory Mendel- Made groundbreaking paper on inheritance in the pea plant.

Polygenetic inheritance –Characters that vary more or less continuously

Population- a group of individuals of the same species that live in the same area and are interbreed

Gene Pool- All copies of every type of allele at every locus in all members of a population

Microevolution- The relative frequency of alleles in a population change over a number of generations