

PART 3

You are going to read an article about evolution in the future. Eight paragraphs have been removed from the article. Choose from the paragraphs (A-I) the one which fits each gap (14-20). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Life on Earth in 50 million AD

Evolution is not a process which occurred at some time in the past to get us where we are today. Evolution is an on-going process that will continue long after human beings have died out. Indeed, it will go on as long as there is life on earth.

0 [] C []

No, not really. But we can make some guesses by looking at how much things have changed. Fifty million years ago, dinosaurs and other great reptiles had already died out, and nature was experimenting with other kinds of animals in an attempt to replace them.

14 []

The disappearance of the dinosaurs is only one of the many mass-extinctions that have occurred during the last three and a half billion years. When this happens, nature starts repopulating the planet with descendants of the animals that survived.

15 []

It's likely that present endangered species such as tigers, whales, pandas and rhinos would go, as well many domesticated animals which are unable to survive without human beings.

16 []

It would have to have very strong jaws and teeth that are not easily worn down by chewing grass. Long legs would also be necessary, as flat-lands have no hiding places, and when faced with danger the only option is for the animal to run away.

17 []

These three animals are completely unrelated, but have developed the same features which enable them to survive in grasslands. After our imaginary mass-extinction, the grasslands would become important once again.

18 []

The rabbit is a good candidate. It produces many generations in a short space of time and doesn't require a specialised living environment. A group of rabbits might develop long running legs and long faces to help them take the place of the big grass-eaters that were around before our imaginary mass extinction occurred. This new type of rabbit could take on a shape similar to that of a horse, antelope or kangaroo.

19 []

Creatures that hunted rabbits would also evolve. Today's meat-eaters—lions, wolves and snakes—are highly evolved. This means that they have changed a great deal over the generations. So even if today's meat-eaters do survive, there is likely to be a huge development in new species over the next few million years. For example, evolved rats could take the place of today's meat-eaters, hunting our imaginary long-legged rabbits.

20 []

New animals may develop in this way, or they may not. However, there is no doubt that there will be big changes to the inhabitants of our planet over the next few million years.

- A It is also a good idea to have a long face with eyes high up on it, so when the animal is eating grass it can still look out for danger.
B Another mass-extinction is expected in the near geological future - in other words, within the next two million years. This next mass-extinction could include humans, and if they become extinct, a large number of animals would go with them.
C As this is true, is it possible to predict the course of evolutionary development? Can we imagine what the world might be like in the distant future?
D This could easily happen as rats are very adaptable and can be found almost everywhere. A meat-eating rat would have to develop killing teeth, and would possibly grow to the size of a wolf. This would help them to run and hunt.
E By examining fossils, scientists are able to tell that these enormous creatures seemed to die out quickly. This allowed the gap to be filled by smaller animals. This pattern of events can be clearly seen when there is a mass extinction - that is, when huge animals of the same genus all die out at the same time.
F What would remain are rats, mice, rabbits and birds. From them would evolve a complete new variety of animals which would replace cows, tigers, pandas and so on. Consider grass-eating animals. Any animal living on a grassy plain must have evolved certain physical features that would allow it to survive there.
G Of course there is the possibility that no animals will survive at all. This will mean that humans will have to find new ways to produce food. It may also mean that the earth will be overrun with plants and insects which animals now eat.
H This is not as ridiculous as it sounds. Fifty million years ago the modern horse's ancestors could well have been small, rabbit-sized animals.
I The food supply - plants and grasses - would attract new inhabitants, which is another of the rules of evolution we can use. But what would these new grass-eaters be like?

PART 4

You are going to read some information about museums. For questions 21-35, choose from the extracts (A-E). Some of them may be chosen more than once. When more than one answer is required, these may be given in any order. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Which place(s) should you visit if you:

- want to see live animals? 0 [] B []
are interested in cloth-making? 21 []
want to be shown around by experts? 22 []
are interested in the development of the computer? 23 []
want views of the city? 24 []
are interested in local social history? 25 []
are interested in pre-colonial cultures? 26 []
want to see moving models? 27 [] 28 []
are interested in the history of mechanics? 29 [] 30 []
are interested in underwater life? 31 [] 32 []
Which place(s):
has several sites? 33 []
are offering reduced entrance fees? 34 [] 35 []

Places to Visit

- Tower Bridge Exhibition, London [] A Navajo weaving, and rugs from Madagascar. Entrance is free.
The Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester [] D Manchester has a long history of technological and scientific achievement. At the Museum of Science and Industry, this rich past is explored through a wide range of exhibits, which follow the city's story from Roman times to the present day. There's a fascinating collection of the kinds of Victorian engineering that made Manchester the first British industrial city. In the Computer Gallery you can see some of the oldest examples of information technology. Meanwhile the Air and Space gallery houses some fascinating exhibits from the earliest days of modern flight. There are many exhibits of everyday life too, from Roman sanitation to life in the poorest districts of the city in the 1830's and 40's. The "Xperiment" section is an interactive gallery that allows you to take part in various experiments that help explain complex scientific principles in an understandable way. And this month there's a special exhibition in which local people's collections are displayed - everything from teddybears to matchboxes and tea pots. For more information on displays and entrance costs, phone 061-832-2244.
Sea Life Centres [] B Unless you actually go deep-sea diving, there's no better way to see the beauties of Britain's underwater world than by visiting a Sea Life Centre. There are 14 of these spectacular marine exhibitions positioned around the coastline. Each one provides close-up encounters with sharks, stingrays, octopuses and starfish. Many have walk-through, glass-sided tunnels. At one centre in Cornwall there's a sanctuary for adult seals and sea-lions, and a rescue centre for sick or abandoned grey seal pups. This month there's a special offer for visitors: two adults will be admitted for the price of one.
The Museum of Mankind, London [] C The Museum of Mankind is the Ethnography Department of the British Museum. Housed in a separate building, it is home to exhibits of all manner of human life, past and present. The current exhibition is "Paradise, Change and Continuity in the New Guinea Highlands", and includes various artefacts from the region, from colourful net bags to contemporary shields made from car bodies. In the Treasure Gallery you'll find native American art, and objects from pre-Hispanic Mexico, Central and South America. Another current exhibition covers the 15th and 16th century Edo empire of Southern Nigeria, and includes a collection of brass, ivory and coral work. In the Textile Gallery, there is a fine display of
The Natural History Museum, London [] E If you liked "Jurassic Park", just wait until you see the dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum. "Dinosaurs" is an amazing exhibition based on the museum's fossil collections, and created using state-of-the-art design techniques. Looking at the scenes showing robotic models feeding is just like watching living animals. Guaranteed to delight children and adults alike, "Dinosaurs" is only one of the many exhibitions at the museum. Another popular display is "Mammals of the Deep", which includes the skeleton of a Great Blue Whale, the largest mammal on earth. The Museum's butterfly, moth and beetle collection is widely regarded as the most comprehensive in the world. What's more, the entrance fee for adults is currently half price (£1.50) with children, as always, admitted free.