A DARWINIAN VIEW OF LIFE

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Objectives

- 1. State how Cuvier, Lyell, Malthus and Wallace contributed to evolutionary thought.
- 2. Contrast Lamarckian and Darwinian concepts of evolution.
- 3. State the basic principles of evolution by natural selection.
- 4. Discuss the evidence for evolution.
- 5. Contrast homologous v. analogous structures.
- 6. Contrast convergent v. divergent evolution.

Outline

- A. Development of Theory
 - 1. Anaximander
 - 2. Aristotle
 - 3. Georges Cuvier
 - 4. Charles Lyell
 - 5. Thomas Malthus
 - 6. Jean Baptiste de Lamarck
 - 7. Alfred Russel Wallace
 - 8. Charles Darwin
- B. Mechanism of Evolution
- C. Evidence for Evolution

A. History of Evolutionary Theory

1. Anaximander

- Life arose in water
- Simpler forms preceded more complex ones

2. Aristotle

• Species are fixed and unchanging

3. Georges Cuvier

- Stratification of soil layers
 - Catastrophism
 - Variation in fossils between layers
 - Greater change with greater distance

4. Charles Lyell

- Uniformitarianism
 - Changes between layers are gradual



5. Thomas Malthus

- Populations will outgrow food supply
 - Food supplies grow arithmetically
 - Populations grow exponentially

6. Jean Baptiste de Lamarck

- Diversity due to change over time
- Higher species arise from lower ones
 - Humans the pinnacle of evolution
- Inheritance of acquired traits
 - New traits arise from need and use

7. Alfred Russel Wallace

- Studied birds-of-paradise in Indonesia
 - Only one species on mainland
 - Many different species on islands
- Birds adapted to new islands
 - Adaptive radiation



8. Charles Darwin

- Studied life of Galapagos Islands
 - Few types of animals
 - Differed from mainland species
 - Differed among islands
- Finches
 - One species on mainland
 - Thirteen species on islands
 - Differed in size, beak shape, food







- Arrived from mainland
 - Diversified to best adapt to new home
 - Small differences in size, feeding habits amplified over time
 - Eventually became new species

B. Mechanism of Evolution

Natural Selection





- Adaptation
- Descent with modification
 - Adaptive Radiation



- Direct Observations of Selection
 - e.g., antibiotic resistance
 - e.g., pesticide/herbicide resistance



- Artificial Selection
 - Demonstrates directional selection



- Comparative Anatomy
 - Homologous
 - Divergent Evolution
 - Analogous
 - Convergent Evolution







- Molecular Biology
 - Uses differences in sequence
 - Differences least among closest relatives

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- Fossil Record
 - Record of descent with modification



- Biogeography
 - Related organisms live nearby