

Darwin Natural Selection Worksheet Answer Key PDF

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Part 1: Building a Foundation

What is the primary mechanism by which evolution occurs according to Darwin?

undefined. A) Genetic Drift

undefined. B) Natural Selection ✓

undefined. C) Artificial Selection

undefined. D) Mutation

The primary mechanism is Natural Selection.

Which of the following are sources of variation in a population? (Select all that apply)

undefined. A) Mutations ✓

undefined. B) Genetic Recombination ✓

undefined. C) Environmental Changes

undefined. D) Natural Selection

Sources of variation include Mutations and Genetic Recombination.

Explain in your own words what 'survival of the fittest' means in the context of natural selection.

'Survival of the fittest' refers to the idea that individuals with advantageous traits are more likely to survive and reproduce.

List two examples of adaptations that organisms might develop to survive in their environment.

1. Example 1

Camouflage

2. Example 2

Long necks in giraffes

Examples of adaptations include camouflage and long necks in giraffes.

Part 2: Understanding and Interpretation

Which statement best describes an adaptation?

undefined. A) A temporary change in behavior

undefined. B) A permanent change in an organism's genetic code

undefined. C) A trait that improves an organism's chances of survival and reproduction ✓

undefined. D) A random mutation that occurs in a population

An adaptation is a trait that improves an organism's chances of survival and reproduction.

Which of the following are examples of selective pressures? (Select all that apply)

undefined. A) Predation ✓

undefined. B) Availability of resources ✓

undefined. C) Random genetic mutations

undefined. D) Climate changes ✓

Examples of selective pressures include Predation and Availability of resources.

Describe how natural selection can lead to the development of antibiotic resistance in bacteria.

Natural selection leads to antibiotic resistance as bacteria with resistance survive and reproduce, passing on their traits.

Part 3: Application and Analysis

If a population of insects becomes resistant to a pesticide, what is the most likely explanation?

undefined. A) The insects mutated in response to the pesticide

undefined. B) The pesticide caused the insects to evolve

undefined. C) Insects with natural resistance survived and reproduced ✓

undefined. D) The pesticide was not applied correctly

The most likely explanation is that insects with natural resistance survived and reproduced.

How might climate change act as a selective pressure on a species? (Select all that apply)

undefined. A) Altering food availability ✓

undefined. B) Changing habitat conditions ✓

undefined. C) Increasing mutation rates

undefined. D) Introducing new predators ✓

Climate change can alter food availability and change habitat conditions, acting as selective pressures.

Provide an example of a real-world scenario where natural selection has led to a noticeable change in a species. Explain the process.

An example is the pepper moth, which changed color due to industrial pollution, illustrating natural selection.

Part 4: Evaluation and Creation

Which of the following best illustrates the relationship between variation and natural selection?

undefined. A) Variation is a result of natural selection

undefined. B) Natural selection eliminates variation

undefined. C) Variation provides the raw material for natural selection ✓

undefined. D) Natural selection creates variation

Variation provides the raw material for natural selection.

Analyze the following scenarios and identify which involve natural selection. (Select all that apply)

undefined. A) A farmer breeds cows for higher milk production

undefined. B) A population of birds develops longer beaks to access food ✓

undefined. C) A species of fish changes color due to pollution

undefined. D) A virus mutates to become more infectious ✓

Scenarios involving natural selection include a population of birds developing longer beaks and a virus mutating to become more infectious.

Which scenario would most likely lead to the extinction of a species?

undefined. A) High genetic diversity and stable environment

undefined. B) Low genetic diversity and rapidly changing environment ✓

undefined. C) High mutation rate and stable environment

undefined. D) Low mutation rate and stable environment

Low genetic diversity and a rapidly changing environment would most likely lead to extinction.

Evaluate the following statements and select those that accurately describe the impact of human activity on natural selection. (Select all that apply)

undefined. A) Human activity can create new selective pressures ✓

undefined. B) Human activity has no impact on natural selection

undefined. C) Human activity can accelerate evolutionary changes ✓

undefined. D) Human activity can lead to the extinction of species ✓

Human activity can create new selective pressures, accelerate evolutionary changes, and lead to extinction of species.

Propose a conservation strategy that could help a species adapt to climate change through natural selection. Include specific actions and expected outcomes.

A conservation strategy could involve habitat restoration and protection, which would help species adapt to climate change.