AP: CHAPTER 22-25: EVOLUTION EXAM

Guess Who Came To Dinner!

DUE: Tuesday, February 15.

Read Chapters 22-25. Using that information, and any other information you may gather from lecture, the Internet, or other sources, complete the following assignment:

You and your family are sitting down to Sunday dinner with your good friend, Charles Darwin, when, all of a sudden, the doorbell rings. Plato, Aristotle, Charles Lyell, Jean Baptiste Lamarck, Ernst Mayr, Theodosius Dobzhansky, Georges Cuvier, James Hutton, Thomas Malthus, Gregor Mendel, Godfrey Hardy, Wilhelm Weinberg, Carolus Linnaeus, and Stephen Jay Gould arrive at your door and ask to come in and join you. But you only have limited seating, so you choose 6 guests. The rest are invited back next week.

Amidst the fun and festivities, a heated debate about evolution ensues. Topics come up, such as:

- natural selection
- geology: paleontology, gradualism, and uniformitarianism
- the fossil record
- the place of “man” in the universe
- the origin of new species
- punctuated equilibrium
- genetics
- real vs. ideal worlds

Theories (as well as, maybe, a few punches) are flying left and right. Lucky for you, you have your tape recorder close at hand, because your AP Biology teacher would never believe this in a million years!

1. Create a seating chart for the table, including you and your family members. Add a "cast of characters” section in which you very briefly summarize the important theory or contribution of each of the guests to the development of evolutionary theory as well as the years in which the individual lived.

2. Write an account of the dinner in which you describe conversation around the table, between people sitting next to each, and across from each other (including your brother or sister asking to “pass the peas please!”). Be sure to have each character, as well as your family members, contribute to the conversation. Feel free to add humor! The paper must be typed, 3-5 pages in length (but you can go longer, if you are having fun).

3. Towards the end of dinner, there’s a knock at the door. You answer and in barges an uninvited, and very unexpected, guest (someone from any time in history, including the present). Who is this guest? And what jaw-dropping pronouncement do they make to the dinner party?