

**XXXIII. Why do Christians have varying views on how and when God created the world?**

355. YEC's (young earth creationists) and OEC's (old earth creationists) \_\_\_\_\_ about the age of the earth but they \_\_\_\_\_ "that God \_\_\_\_\_ humans \_\_\_\_\_, rather than through \_\_\_\_\_".
356. TE's (theistic evolutionists), however, hold a third view: that God used \_\_\_\_\_ to create life and humans
357. ID (intelligent design) is often misunderstood. "Christians [and non-Christians] often mistakenly assume intelligent design refers to a belief that the \_\_\_\_\_ God created the universe as \_\_\_\_\_ in Genesis. ... [but it] only says that 'life or the universe, cannot have \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ and was \_\_\_\_\_ and created by some \_\_\_\_\_ entity'. ... That means intelligent design is \_\_\_\_\_ with Christianity, but it's not a comprehensive \_\_\_\_\_ view..."
358. "While Christians do disagree over questions of the Earth's age and God's method of creation, they agree on the most important question of all: that the universe is the work of a \_\_\_\_\_ God. ... the heart of the origins battle: Is the universe the product of an \_\_\_\_\_ mind or of \_\_\_\_\_ forces?"
359. The bigger problem, today, is that evolution and old earth are considered to be \_\_\_\_\_ scientific \_\_\_\_\_. "The science involved in the origins \_\_\_\_\_ is very frequently the \_\_\_\_\_ dividing line between Christian faith and atheism..."
360. Why do you agree or disagree with Natasha's position: "If you oversimplify the issue by teaching your kids that 'you either \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ or you don't,' it's like suggesting that swimming in the tidal wave is as easy as moving your arms in a few circles."  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
361. "You can be certain that your kids won't learn about \_\_\_\_\_ views in a \_\_\_\_\_ educational environment. You can be equally certain that they won't learn much about them at \_\_\_\_\_ ..."

**XXXIV. What is young-Earth creationism?**

362. Do you believe the Gallup polls that say 42% of Americans believe in young-Earth creationism?

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

363. "The fields of astronomy, geology, paleontology, biology, and archaeology all assume an old Earth. Kids who simply have a 'default' \_\_\_\_\_-Earth belief without a deeper \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ points involved may well be headed for an eventual faith crisis when confronted with \_\_\_\_\_ claims from multiple sides."

364. What does Crain consider to be the 'four key pillars of the biblical case made by YEC's?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_

365. The word for day, "\_\_\_\_\_", is in the OT 1704 times and "\_\_\_\_\_" refers to a 24-hour period."

366. The Bible provides enough information to calculate the timing of OT events. What are reasonable dates for each of the following:

- a. Death of King Ahab: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. The exodus: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Abraham's birth date: \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Adam's 'birth' date: \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Therefore, YED creation date: \_\_\_\_\_

367. "... belief in a global flood is a scientifically \_\_\_\_\_ part of the YEC view.

368. What is the assumption of 'uniformitarianism'?

- a. That the \_\_\_\_\_ laws and processes we see at work today are the same ones that have \_\_\_\_\_ been in operation..."

369. Instead of 'uniformitarianism', YEC's believe in 'catastrophism'. What in the world is that?

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

370. The YEC-OEC debate is further 'heated' because YEC's "say the theological implications of believing in an old Earth are problematic enough to \_\_\_\_\_ the entire \_\_\_\_\_ message. The heart of the issue is whether, theologically speaking, there could have been \_\_\_\_\_ before Adam and Eve first \_\_\_\_\_."

371. Why do YEC's believe that is a critical issue?

*a. They believe that \_\_\_\_\_ entered the world at the moment Adam and Eve \_\_\_\_\_.*

**XXXV. How do mainstream scientists estimate the age of the Earth?**

372. What is the 'appearance of age' theory?

*a. \_\_\_\_\_*

373. How many 'varves' have scientists counted in the Green River geologic formation?

*a. \_\_\_\_\_*

374. Radiometric dating is based on what 3 critical assumptions?

*a. Initial conditions are \_\_\_\_\_*

*b. The amount of the original \_\_\_\_\_ and it's decayed product haven't been \_\_\_\_\_ by processes other than radioactive decay*

*c. The decay \_\_\_\_\_ has remained \_\_\_\_\_ since the rock was formed.*

375. Crain admits that "this exceedingly brief scientific overview barely \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the discussion."

**XXXVI. What is old-Earth creationism?**

376. OEC's say our scientific 'experience' [evidence] should lead Christians to an admittedly less \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ interpretation of Genesis."

377. OEC's contend "that if the sun was not \_\_\_\_\_ until day \_\_\_\_\_, there could not have been an actual sunrise and sunset on the first three days—yet Genesis speaks of evening and morning starting on day one. ... that the words for evening and morning only mark the beginning and ending of each creative \_\_\_\_\_, and ... that morning and evening are used \_\_\_\_\_ in Psalms 30:5, 49:14-15 and 90:6."

378. OEC's also contend that day 7 of creation never \_\_\_\_\_ [based on several scriptures], suggesting "the other days of Genesis 1 aren't meant to be read as 24-hour periods either."

379. "Just as young-Earth creationists believe that unnecessarily accepting an old Earth has \_\_\_\_\_ consequences for the gospel, old-Earth creationists believe that unnecessarily accepting a young Earth has \_\_\_\_\_ consequences for the gospel. Old-Earth creationists believe the scientific evidence is so undeniable that promoting a young-Earth view \_\_\_\_\_ subjects Christianity to \_\_\_\_\_."
380. "While much separates their interpretation of science and the Bible, there is one major thing YEC's and OEC's agree on: God \_\_\_\_\_ humans \_\_\_\_\_, not as the end result of \_\_\_\_\_."

**XXXVII. What is evolution?**

381. "Many Christian parents \_\_\_\_\_ (if not trivialize) evolutionary theory with their children in favor of emphasizing God's direct creation. Kids are often shocked when they eventually study the \_\_\_\_\_ for evolution in detail and find it \_\_\_\_\_ convincing."
382. Extra credit: Do you agree with the statement in question 381 (above)? Why/why not?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
383. Extra credit: Does Proverb 18:17 help us understand why this (above) is a major problem for our students in today's culture? How and why?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
384. "We owe it to our kids to discuss evolution in an honest and \_\_\_\_\_ way so they aren't later \_\_\_\_\_ ... [when they go to college]."
385. Going far beyond the basic meaning of 'evolution', "The 'theory of evolution' is a group of propositions that seek to explain how \_\_\_\_\_ life on Earth evolved from a \_\_\_\_\_ primitive species that lived roughly 3.5 \_\_\_\_\_ years ago."

386. Which of the following are accepted by both OEC's and YEC's without question:
- a. \_\_\_ Every human cell contains a code – a sequence of more than 3 billion DNA base pairs.
  - b. \_\_\_ All living things have their unique versions of DNA. Some lower forms of life have much longer DNA molecules than humans.
  - c. \_\_\_ Much human DNA is identical to much chimpanzee DNA.
  - d. \_\_\_ Offspring of any plant or animal differ in their individual strengths and weaknesses and some are more likely to survive than others. Those that survive are more likely to reproduce, thus passing their genes to the next generation.
  - e. \_\_\_ Mutations sometimes occur when DNA copies itself. Mutations can cause new forms of variability among offspring.
  - f. \_\_\_ In some cases, over time, mutations and natural selection can result in new species.
  - g. \_\_\_ Given enough time, mutation and natural selection can result in 'macroevolution', thus explaining how higher life forms evolved from lower life forms. e.g. reptiles to birds.

**XXXVIII. What are the major pieces of evidence for evolution?**

387. Natasha was blown away when she first encountered the evidence for evolution: "The evidence was shockingly \_\_\_\_\_ — far more \_\_\_\_\_ than I had ever imagined. The details were fascinating and \_\_\_\_\_. This wasn't some half-baked idea about how fossils fit together, as I had previously imagined. This was... completely \_\_\_\_\_. As scientific as any other science I had ever studied and assumed to be \_\_\_\_\_."
388. "It was hardly a leap to ask myself, Why shouldn't I \_\_\_\_\_ this science if I accept all other science I've been taught? I felt like I couldn't \_\_\_\_\_ for hours as I lay pondering what life would look like without the \_\_\_\_\_ I had always \_\_\_\_\_ in.
389. "It's important to know that this one night when evolution \_\_\_\_\_ me came after I had attended church for 30-plus years, served as a youth group leader, taken numerous Sunday school classes, read the Bible regularly, and engaged in an active prayer life. \_\_\_\_\_ of those things \_\_\_\_\_ me to figure out what I should do with the \_\_\_\_\_ for evolution.

390. "If evolution was \_\_\_\_\_, I had no idea how Christianity could be \_\_\_\_\_ at the same time. If evolution was not true, I had no idea how there could be so \_\_\_\_\_ evidence for it. It was \_\_\_\_\_. How much more is learning about the evidence for evolution potentially devastating to \_\_\_\_\_ people with a relatively \_\_\_\_\_ faith? How much more will they "have no idea what to do with" \_\_\_\_\_ information that immediately seems to \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible?"
391. What are the major categories of evidence supporting evolutionary theory?
- a. Evidence from the \_\_\_\_\_ record
    - i. Overall progression of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ organisms
    - ii. \_\_\_\_\_ fossils found, and found where \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Evidence from Biogeography – the study of the \_\_\_\_\_ of species on Earth.
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_ evolution
    - ii. Distribution of Species on \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Evidence from \_\_\_\_\_ traits
  - d. Evidence from \_\_\_\_\_ – e.g. whales born with legs ...
  - e. Evidence from \_\_\_\_\_
392. Extra credit: Do you know of anyone whose faith has been shaken by scientific evidence for evolution? Briefly describe the situation and the outcome.
- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
393. Extra credit: How might you respond to someone who argues that evolution is "settled science", as much accepted fact as Newtonian physics?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**XXXIX. What are the major challenges to evolution?**

394. Extra credit: What do you think about Richard Dawkins statement that there are some, "Sincere people who are not \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_, and not \_\_\_\_\_" who "can be cruelly torn, almost in two, between the \_\_\_\_\_ evidence of science on the one hand, and their understanding of what their \_\_\_\_\_ book tells them on the other."?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
395. What are the two types of evidence from the fossil record that are prime evidence against evolution?
- a. *Limited* \_\_\_\_\_ *fossils*
- b. *The* \_\_\_\_\_ *explosion*
396. "Skeptics of evolution say that evolutionary theory cannot sufficiently account for [the Cambrian explosion for three reasons]"
- a. "... Precambrian fossils are too \_\_\_\_\_ from Cambrian fossils..."
- b. "... skeptics of evolution point out that the \_\_\_\_\_ plans from the Cambrian Explosion are very \_\_\_\_\_ from one another, yet they've exhibited remarkable \_\_\_\_\_ since that time."
- c. "... the \_\_\_\_\_ emergence of Cambrian animals represents an enormous jump in the \_\_\_\_\_ of DNA ... would have required significant amounts of new \_\_\_\_\_ ..."
397. What are the two DNA related challenges to evolutionary theory?
- a. There is limited " \_\_\_\_\_ " in DNA
- b. Most DNA mutations are \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
398. When the human genome was first mapped, scientists estimated that "just **2** percent of DNA was functional". ... exactly what evolutionary theory \_\_\_\_\_ ... [but less than 10 years later] ... "They discovered that much of the DNA previously believed to be '*junk*' actually performs \_\_\_\_\_ functions ..." [thus defying evolutionary predictions]

399. "Skeptics of evolution, ... question whether DNA \_\_\_\_\_ really can produce the new \_\_\_\_\_ needed to develop \_\_\_\_\_ traits. They say mutations usually reshuffle or \_\_\_\_\_ existing information— not \_\_\_\_\_ new information. ... that while some cases of information-gaining mutations \_\_\_\_\_ been found, in order for evolution to be true, there would need to be \_\_\_\_\_ of them—far \_\_\_\_\_ than we see."
400. Evolutionary theory "doesn't claim to explain the origin of the first life. ... but "Evolutionists believe that the first life \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ matter. This process is called \_\_\_\_\_."
401. "Physicist and evolutionist Paul Davies once commented, "Many investigators feel uneasy about stating in public that the origin of life is a \_\_\_\_\_, even though behind closed doors they freely admit that they are \_\_\_\_\_."
402. "These challenges are important to understand. But it's one thing to challenge a theory and another thing to \_\_\_\_\_ a case for \_\_\_\_\_ theory. ... one final question ...Is there any scientific evidence in biology for a \_\_\_\_\_ intelligence?"

**XXXX. What is intelligent design**

403. "While many scientists acknowledge the \_\_\_\_\_ of design in biology, they usually reject the \_\_\_\_\_ of design."
404. "Intelligent design is the scientific theory that says some features of the universe and living things are best \_\_\_\_\_ by an \_\_\_\_\_ cause. [but] ... it's important to clarify that the theory of intelligent design has no \_\_\_\_\_ commitments. It doesn't attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ the intelligent \_\_\_\_\_ that might be responsible for any scientifically detected design. The conclusion of design is strictly based on an \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.
405. "... design can be detected when information ... exhibits what is called \_\_\_\_\_."
406. "To exhibit specified complexity—the theoretical mark of design—information must be \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and *specified*."
407. "To determine whether something is designed, scientists must first eliminate the possibility that it's actually the result of a \_\_\_\_\_ event"



408. Are ice crystals contingent? Why?

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

409. What does this statement mean? "Things that aren't necessary are contingent. Contingency is the first qualifier of design."

a. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

410. "Complexity is an important design qualifier because scientists want to make sure they aren't attributing every somewhat \_\_\_\_\_ event to design when many of those events are \_\_\_\_\_ by chance..."

411. "Even if something is extremely improbable, that doesn't mean it \_\_\_\_\_ happen by chance. ... [For information to be the result of design it must be] specified. The specified in specified \_\_\_\_\_ means that the information matches a known \_\_\_\_\_."

412. "The existence of a \_\_\_\_\_ pattern in complex information is therefore an important consideration for determining design."

413. All known examples of information meeting these criteria [contingent, complex and specified] are the product of intelligent \_\_\_\_\_ —not \_\_\_\_\_ processes.

414. "Given that DNA exhibits specified \_\_\_\_\_, and that all other known examples of specified complexity originate from an intelligent source, intelligent design theorists say we can also infer that intelligence is the \_\_\_\_\_ explanation for the biological \_\_\_\_\_ of DNA."

415. "Intelligent design theory has been the target of attacks from all sides.

- a. Evolutionists regularly reject it as \_\_\_\_\_ science.
- b. Some theistic evolutionists express skepticism that God's supernatural activity in the world would be scientifically \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. Other Christians criticize intelligent design proponents for not going to the next level of making a case for the \_\_\_\_\_ God."

416. Extra credit: Is Christian apologetics important? Why/Why Not?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_