Question Set 1: Animal EVOLUTIONARY BIODIVERSITY

(a). We have mentioned several times in class that the concepts of “Developed” and “Evolved” are NOT the same. Please explain the principal differences between these terms and use a simple example to explain the correct uses of each term.

(6 pts)

(b). Upon closer examination of the relationship between reptiles and birds the following phylogenetic tree seems to be correct.

Note that a single terminal branch of the Class Reptilia (at right) contains all of the birds. Despite that this group is entirely WITHIN the reptile tree, this group has been elevated to the status of a separate class. As a result, the Class Reptilia does NOT contain all of the descendents of a single common ancestor. How does this situation conform to the principles of phylogenetic systematics?

Please explain why it does or does not conform to these principles.

(4 pts)

Question 1 (c).

The figures show the structure of the wings of a bird (left) and bat (right). Note the form and function of the arm and hand bones in these two “wings”. Are these “wings” homologous or analogous?

Please state your choice and write a brief essay including a definition of the terms homologous and analogous and refer to specific details visible in the figures above to support your choice.

(10 pts)
Question Set 2: Skeletal Muscular.

(a). Please briefly explain the principal ecological problem(s) that the **skeletal muscular** system evolved to solve (hint: you must use the terms “evolution of complexity”, “colonization of land” and “gravity” in your answer).

(5 pts)

(b). Please briefly explain the major trends in the evolution of the structure and function of the **skeletal** system among the four taxa depicted at right. (amphioxus, agnatha (jawless fish), fish, frog)

(5 pts)

(c). Please explain what cartilage is, and why it was replaced by bone in the evolution of the chordates.

(4 pts)

(d). Briefly explain how does a muscle contract. In your explanation please include the terms: myosin thick filaments, actin thin filaments, Z-lines, ATP (extra credit for tropomyosin, troponin, calcium).

(6 pts)
Question Set 3: Circulatory System.

(a). Please briefly explain the principal ecological problem(s) that the circulatory system evolved to solve (hint: you must use the terms “diffusion” and “metabolic rate” in your answer).

(5 pts)

(b). What are the two main types of circulatory system in the animal kingdom? Briefly describe how each works.

system 1 - (3 pts)

system 2 - (3 pts)

(c). Please briefly explain the major trends in the evolution of the structure and function of the circulatory system among the five depicted at right. (fish, frog, lizard, bird, and mammal) (hint you must include the term “metabolic rate” in your answer)

(5 pts)

(d). What is “vasodilation” and explain one important function that vasodilation serves.

(2 pts)

(e). In a counter current heat exchanger (such as in the flipper of a seal diagrammed below), indicate the direction of HEAT flow by writing little arrows directly on the sketch below.

(6 pts)
Question Set 4: Respiratory System.

(a). Please briefly explain the principal ecological problem(s) that the respiratory system evolved to solve (hint: you must use the terms “diffusion” and “metabolic rate” in your answer).

(b) Please briefly explain the major trends in the evolution of the structure and function of the respiratory system among the six taxa depicted at right. (sponge, clam, grasshopper, fish, frog, bird)

(c). In a counter current gas exchanger (such as in the gill of a fish at right), use the diagram and explain why the direction of OXYGEN flow is always from the water to the blood.

(d). Please compare and contrast the structure and function of the insect tracheal system with human respiration using lungs.
Question Set 5: Digestive System.

(a). Please briefly explain the principal ecological problem(s) that the digestive system evolved to solve.

(b). Please briefly explain the major trends in the evolution of the structure and function of the digestive system among the five taxa depicted at right. (sponge, hydra, earthworm, sea star, and shark)

(c). Please refer to the figure and describe the key aspects of the structure and function of the stomach of a ruminant herbivorous mammal.

What happens in the rumen vs. the abomasum that allows these cows to digest their food.

(d) Please explain the sequence of steps in the evolution of the jaw (refer to the diagram).
Question Set 6: Reproductive System.

(a). The trend from asexual to sexual reproduction has been cited as a major evolutionary trend in reproduction among animals. Why might sexual reproduction be advantageous? (5 pts)

(b). Please list AND briefly explain 3 major evolutionary innovations in the evolution of sexual reproduction:
   1 - (2 pts)
   2 - (2 pts)
   3 - (2 pts)

(c). What were the principal ecological challenges and evolved solutions to the evolution of the reproductive system as vertebrate animals colonized land? (5 pts)

(d). Parthenogenesis is defined as
   (A). the development of an egg without fertilization
   (B). one individual has both male and female reproductive systems
   (C). when an individual reverses its sex during its life time
   (D). none of the above (2 pts)

(e). On the diagram below of an amniotic egg, label the following (neatly connect an arrow from the word at left to the correct feature in the graphic at right): (4 pts)

(e). Please briefly explain the function of the extra-embryo membranes (such as the amnion, chorion, and allantios) in the adaptation of the amniotic egg to terrestrial life. How did these design features enable embryos to survive in relatively dry soil. (5 pts)
Question Set 8: Excretory System.

(a). Please briefly explain the two principal ecological problem(s) that the excretory system evolved to solve.

(b). Please briefly explain the major trends in excretory system evolution among the taxa depicted at right. (sponge, flatworm, earthworm, grasshopper, human)

(c). Please define osmoregulation.

(d) What are some of the major advantages and disadvantages of excreting ammonia, urea, versus uric acid. Name one animal or taxa that excrete each

(e). Please compare and contrast the osmoregulatory challenges and adaptations of a marine vs. a freshwater bony fish. Please use the sketches below in your explanation.
Question 9: Multisystem.

A “Keleb” is a large creature (20 kg) that evolved (for about 100 million years) on land near the Adom sea on planet Haretz. The atmosphere of Planet Haretz is oxygen rich (40%) and its waters are extremely saline. Keleb is a very active animal with a very low blood salt concentration. Describe Keleb’s skeletal muscular, circulatory, and excretory systems. Provide an explanation and rationale for your description.

skeletal muscular – (6 pts)
circulatory – (6 pts)
excretory systems – (8 pts)

Question 10: WHAT SYSTEM DID YOU STUDY? ________________________________

What is the one really good question ON YOUR SYSTEM that you were prepared to answer that we did not ask you? And, what is the answer to that question?

(a). the ESSAY question we didn’t ask ON YOUR SYSTEM -

(note: think carefully about what question you put down here – it must be a question that warrants a detailed response of at least ½ a page. Your maximum score for part (b) will depend on the degree of difficulty of the question you ask here [just like diving!])

(b). its answer - (5 pts)

(10 pts)

Question 10 (con.): What is the one really good question ON A SYSTEM OTHER THAN YOUR STUDY SYSTEM that you were prepared to answer that we did not ask you? And, what is the answer to that question?

(c). the ESSAY question we didn’t ask on a DIFFERENT SYSTEM –

(note: think carefully about what question you put down here – it must be a question that warrants a fairly detailed response of at least ½ a page. Your maximum score for part (b) will depend on the degree of difficulty of the question you ask here [just like diving!])

(d). its answer - (5 pts)

(10 pts)