Name	Class	Date

Chapter 15 Darwin's Theory of Evolution

Section 15-1 The Puzzle of Life's Diversity (pages 369-372)

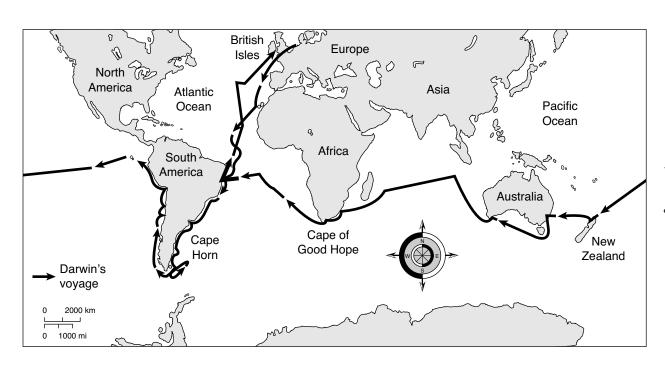
This section outlines Charles Darwin's contribution to science. It also describes the pattern of diversity he observed among organisms of the Galápagos Islands.

Introduction (page 369)

- **1.** The process by which modern organisms have descended from ancient organisms is called ______.
- **2.** A well-supported explanation of phenomena that have occurred in the natural world is a(an) ______.
- **3.** Is the following sentence true or false? Charles Darwin contributed more to our understanding of evolution than anyone else. _____

Voyage of the Beagle (pages 369–370)

- **4.** Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about Charles Darwin.
 - a. He was born in 1809.
 - **b.** He was an English naturalist.
 - c. He was 42 when he began the voyage on the Beagle.
 - **d.** The voyage lasted 5 years and took him around the world.
- **5.** Label the Galápagos Islands on the map below.



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6. Is the following sentence	true or false? Darwin was loo	oking for a scientific explanation			
for the diversity of life on	Earth				
Darwin's Observations	6 (pages 370–372)				
7. Circle the letter of each of	observation that Darwin mad	le.			
a. An enormous numbe	r of species inhabit Earth.				
b. Many organisms seen	n to be poorly suited to their	environment.			
c. The same sorts of animparts of the world.	mals are always found in the	same ecosystems in different			
d. Some species that live	ed in the past no longer live o	on Earth.			
8. The preserved remains of	of ancient organisms are calle	d			
9. As Darwin studied fossi	ls, what new questions arose	?			
10. Is the following sentence	e true or false? Of all the <i>Beag</i>	rle's ports of call, the one that			
influenced Darwin the n	nost was the Galápagos Islan	ds			
11. Circle the letter of each choice that is true about the Galápagos Islands.					
a. The islands are far ap	part.				
b. The smallest, lowest islands are hot and wet.					
c. The higher islands ha	c. The higher islands have more rainfall.				
d. All the islands have t	he same amount of vegetatio	n.			
12. How did Darwin explain	n differences in shell shape of	f tortoises from Hood Island and			
Isabela Island?					
13. Darwin observed that sr	mall brown birds on the Galá	pagos Islands differed in the			
shape of their	•	1 0			
The Journey Home (pag	ge 372)				
14. What did Darwin think		Fngland?			
	about on his journey home it	Ligidia			

Naı	me Class Date	
15.	After he returned to England, what hypothesis did Darwin develop to explain hi findings?	s

Reading Skill Practice

You can focus on the most important points in a section by turning the headings into questions and then trying to find the answers as you read. For each heading in Section 15–1, first write the heading as a how, what, or why question. Then, find and write the answer to your question. Do your work on a separate sheet of paper.