

Nature of Science Essay

Bio 216

Level 5 (Excellent) – A well developed essay that thoroughly addresses the topic, staying focused on how the process of science was involved in the development of the theory of evolution. The essay shows well thought out use of the concepts of adaptation, natural selection, and descent from common ancestors. It is no longer than 1 single spaced page, and there are at least 2 citations from the reading to support the author’s position. Correct spelling and grammar are used.

Level 4 (Above average) – Essay addresses the topic, but may lose focus from the original point of the assignment. The author incorporates the concepts of adaptation, natural selection, and descent from a common ancestor, but may use them in support of a flawed argument. Essay is no longer than 1 single spaced page, and there are 2 citations from the readings to support the author’s position. Correct spelling and grammar are used.

Level 3 (Average) – Essay loses focus on how the process of science was involved in the development of the theory of evolution. The essay demonstrates an incomplete understanding of the concepts of adaptation, natural selection, and/or descent from a single ancestor, and one concept may not be addressed at all. The essay is longer than 1 single spaced page, and there is only 1 citation from the reading to support the author’s position. Some spelling and/or grammar errors are seen.

Level 2 (Below average) – The essay fails to discuss the process of science in the development of the theory of evolution. The author fails to incorporate one or more of the concepts of adaptation, natural selection, and descent, and descent from a single ancestor, and demonstrates an incomplete understanding of the concepts addressed. The essay is longer than 1 single spaced page and there are no direct citations from the readings used by the author to support his/her position. Spelling errors and/or grammar errors are abundant.

Level 1 (Inadequate) – The essay does not demonstrate student understanding of the process of science, the theory of evolution, and/or linkages between them. Student demonstrates minimal effort to complete the assignment and demonstrate their knowledge. Or, the essay is not comprehensible because of poor use of written language.