

## AP Biology Summer Assignment 2023 – Book Review

Read and review one of the following books and **write a 2- to 4-page review of the book and how it applies to the study of biology**. Your review of the book should include a recommendation of its effectiveness at communicating its major themes and a ranking of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) stars. This review will be used to assist future students in choosing a book to read. See attached page for the grading rubric.

The book list covers a vast array of biology topics including the topic of evolution. You may have questions with it aligning with a biblical viewpoint. We will discuss any questions or book topics that you have when we start the school year next year.

Pope Francis has stated that scientific theories are not incompatible with the existence of a Creator and that a Creator is required for the origin of the world. According to Pope Francis, “Evolution in nature is not in contrast with the notion of creation because evolution requires the creation of the beings that evolve.” Additionally, God guides that all human beings were created from one set of parents.

### Book List:

*Survival of the Sickest* by Sharon Moalem

*Inheritance* by Sharon Moalem

*Your Inner Fish* by Neil Shubin

*The Universe Within* by Neil Shubin

*Some Assembly Required* by Neil Shubin

*The Sixth Extinction* by Elizabeth Kolbert

*The Serengeti Rules* by Sean B Carroll

*The Making of the Fittest* by Sean B Carroll

*The Story of Life* by Sean B Carroll

*The Emperor of All Maladies* by Siddhartha Mukherjee

*The Gene* by Siddhartha Mukherjee

*Spillover* by David Quammen

*I Contain Multitudes* by Ed Yong

*A Brief History of Everyone Who Ever Lived* by Adam Rutherford

*Improbable Destinies* by Jonathan Losos

*The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben

*The Breakthrough* by Charles Graeber

*Pandora’s Lab* by Paul A Offit

*The Double Helix* by James Watson

*The Monk in the Garden* by Robin Marantz Henig

*The Hot Zone* by Richard Preston

<b>Category &amp; Points</b>	<b>Outstanding</b> 90 – 100%	<b>Acceptable</b> 80 – 89%	<b>Needs Improvement</b> 70 – 79%	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> under 70%	<b>Score</b>
<b>Introduction</b> 10 points	Title and author listed. Introduction is attention-getting and provides relevant information. Discusses genre and details. Strong catchphrase. Star ranking designated.	Title and author listed. Includes genre and details. Solid catchphrase is designated. Star ranking designated.	Title and author are not immediately mentioned but are eventually provided. Missing or random catchphrase and/or star ranking.	Title and/or author is omitted. Missing star designation and catchphrase.	
<b>Summary</b> 20 points	Summary consists of a discussion of major themes and ideas providing exemplary ideas from the work. It includes strong opinions and new ideas using your own words.	Summary consists of a discussion of major themes and ideas with some opinion and new ideas from the work. Summary may lack detail.	Summary consists of a discussion of major themes or ideas. There is little opinion or mention of new ideas.	Summary is mostly an outline of the book and does not discuss opinion or new ideas.	
<b>Critique</b> 30 points	Critique consists of thoughts, responses, and reactions to the book. The student reviewer reacts to the themes, the author's aims or intent, the subject of the book, how well it is written, and overall success or failure of the book.	Critique consists of thoughts, responses, and reaction to the book. The student reviewer may discuss only two aspects, for example, themes and writer's style. There is not a thorough review of various aspects.	Critique consists of thoughts, responses, and reaction to the book. The student may discuss only one aspect of the book, such as themes. This review just states, "Well, I liked it" or "Well, I hated it." It lacks a critical eye.	Critique consists of a basic opinion based on personal feeling of "I liked it" or "I hated it" and is not considered a critique because it does not focus on themes, author's intent, or writer's style.	
<b>Organization &amp; Voice</b> 20 points	Structure of the paper flows and is easily read because of smooth transitions from paragraph to paragraph. The sequence of topics is in logical order. There is a clear-cut introduction, body, and conclusion. Your creative voice is strong.	Structure of the paper flows and is easily read, but 1 or 2 transitions may be faulty or missing. There is some illogical order in sequence of topics. There is a clear-cut introduction, body, and conclusion. Your voice is solid.	Structure of the paper does NOT follow a logical order. The writing or ideas may "jump" around; it is not cohesive. There is not a clear introduction or conclusion. Review lacks your voice.	Structure of the paper does NOT follow a logical order. There are no transitional phrases that make it easy to read the paper...OR...review is just a copying of the text. No voice at all.	
<b>Mechanics &amp; Language</b> 10 points	Uses complete sentences and a variety of sentence types. Vibrant, effective vocabulary included.	Uses complete sentences and a variety of sentence types. Word choice is effective.	There are 1 – 2 incomplete sentences or fragments. There are also run-on sentences. Basic word choice.	There are more than 2 incomplete sentences or fragments. There are more than 2 run-ons. Dull words.	
<b>Effectiveness</b> 10 points	One DEFINITELY should or should not read this book.	One SHOULD read or not read this book.	May want to read this book...or not. Recommendation unclear.	No clue what author suggests.	
<b>Totals</b>					