Period _____ Name _____

A Conversation:
Dinner with Darwin

Using your textbook, information from class activities and other information you may gather from the internet and/or other sources, complete the following assignment.

Imagine that you and your family are sitting down to your holiday dinner when, all of the sudden, the doorbell rings. Charles Darwin, Jean Baptiste Lamarck, Thomas Malthus and Charles Lyell arrive at your door and ask to come in and join you. Amidst the fun and festivities, a heated debate about evolution develops. Comments about gradualism, punctuated equilibrium, genetics, homologous structures and other ideas are flying left and right. Lucky for you, you have your tape recorder close at hand, because your Biology teacher would never believe this in a million years!

Write a transcript of the holiday dinner in which you record all conversation (including things like asking your brother or sister to "Pass the beans, please!"). The transcript should be typed, double spaced with a size 12 standard font and be 3-5 pages in length. Be sure to have each historical character, as well as your family members, contribute to the conversation, which is a heated debate about the scientific theory of evolution. You must include discussion of the topics of natural selection, genetic drift, biodiversity, industrial melanism, bottleneck effect, founder effect, reproductive isolation, geographic isolation, macroevolution, microevolution, gradualism, punctuated equilibrium, genetics, homologous structures and other scientific concepts related to evolution. Feel free to add humor! You must include an Appendix in which you give a short biography and a brief summary of the important idea or contribution of each of your visitors to the development of evolutionary theory (sort of like a cast of characters). *A complete Works Cited page listing all sources used must also be included.*

Projects are due on _____.

Project requirements:

- Title page
- Transcript including Darwin, Lamarck, Lyell & Malthus, with correct usage of all scientific terms
- Appendix
- Works Cited

Alternative presentation formats are available only after discussion with me and require prior permission.

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CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Title	Title is creative, sparks interest and is related to the story and topic.	Title is related to the story and topic.	Title is present, but does not appear to be related to the story or topic.	No title.
Accuracy of Scientific Facts	All scientists are included. All facts presented about the scientists and their research presented in the story are accurate.	All scientists are included. Almost all of the facts about the scientists and their research presented in the story are accurate.	All scientists are included. There are several factual errors in the story.	One or more scientists are left out. There are several factual errors in the story.
Vocabulary requirements	All of the vocabulary terms were included and used correctly.	Almost all (about 90%) of the vocabulary terms were included and used correctly.	Most (about 75%) of the vocabulary terms are included, but several were not or were not used correctly.	Many vocabulary terms were not included or used correctly.
Dialogue	There is an appropriate amount of dialogue to bring the characters to life and it is always clear which character is speaking.	There is enough dialogue in this story and it is always clear which character is speaking.	There is not quite enough dialogue in this story, but it is always clear which character is speaking.	It is not always clear which character is speaking.
Creativity	The story contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has really used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the story. The author has tried to use his imagination.	There is little evidence of creativity in the story. The author does not seem to have used much imagination.
Spelling and Punctuation	There are no spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft. Character and place names that the author invented are spelled consistently throughout.	There is one spelling or punctuation error in the final draft.	There are two or three spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft.	The final draft has more that three spelling or punctuation errors.
Neatness	The final draft of the story is readable, clean, neat and attractive. It is free of erasures and crossed-out words. It looks like the author took great pride in it.	The final draft of the story is readable, neat and attractive. It may have one or two erasures, but they are not distracting. It looks like the author took some pride in it.	The final draft of the story is readable and some of the pages are attractive. It looks like some parts of it might have been done in a hurry.	The final draft is not neat or attractive. It looks like the student just wanted to get it done and didn't care what it looked like.
Works Cited	*Works Cited* is complete and follows the school format. There is no plagiarism.	*Works Cited* is complete but does not follow the school format. There is no plagiarism.	*Works Cited* is incomplete and does not follow the school format. There is no plagiarism.	*Works Cited* is not included. There is no plagiarism.

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Briefly summarize the important theory or contribution of each of the scientists listed below to the development of evolutionary theory.

Scientist	When he lived	His contribution to the theory of evolution
Charles Darwin		
Jean Baptiste Lamarck		
Charles Lyell		
Thomas Malthus		

Define these vocabulary terms using the book or other resources, and again in your own words.

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Vocabulary Term	"Book" Definition	The Definition in your own words
natural selection		
genetic drift		
biodiversity		
industrial melanism		
bottleneck effect		
founder effect		
reproductive isolation		
geographic isolation		
gradualism		
punctuated equilibrium		
genetics		
homologous structures		