Evolution via Selection: Questions for Discussion

AP Biology

1. Explain why an individual organism cannot be said to evolve.
2. What is the immediate effect of both overpopulation and environmental change on a population? …The long term effect(s)?
3. Which of the following traits in the human population is the better example of polymorphism: blood group (A, B, AB, o), height, number of fingers? Justify.
4. In what sense is natural selection an editing process as opposed to a creative process?
5. What are other phrases used synonymously with natural selection? Explain each.
6. Regarding the peppered moths of England, what adaptation do the lighter moths employ today? What type of selection is this?
7. The black-bellied seed cracker population of West Africa relies on two food sources: large, hard seeds, easily cracked by large billed birds, and smaller, softer seeds, eaten by variants with small beaks. What type of selection and population distribution graph (histogram) results?