

Kettlewell (1955)

1. 1st sentence. By this point in your life, you should have heard about the *Biston betularia* story. Did you know that >50 species also exhibited this shift?
2. Might Kettlewell have used moth densities that were too high? Should he have released them elsewhere beyond tree trunks? Or at night, when they would normally select sites? Should he have used only local-caught moths? Are his recapture rates suspect?
3. Do you think that “industrial melanism in the peppered moth is still one of the clearest and most easily understood examples of Darwinian evolution in action”? [Majerus 2009]

Hutchinson (1959)

4. His p.147. He considers forces acting on food chains as explainers of diversity. Does this approach puzzle you? What other directions would be more obvious?
5. pgs. 149-150. Is a more diverse food web (community) is more stable than a simpler food chain, and thus evolution drives toward to more diversity (because more species are likely to persist)?
6. p. 150. Does more energy cause more species via more resource? Faster evolution? Or does it cause greater habitat complexity/
7. p. 152. Finally – niche! Why so many other factors first and the prominence of predation throughout?

Ehrlich & Raven (1964)

8. Is this the origin of “coevolution”?
9. What defenses does a plant have against insect predation? How are these defenses surmounted by insects?
10. Discussion. How might phylogenetics / systematics inform this theme?
11. What is this “community evolution” nonsense? Group selection?!?! Heresy I say!!!