

NOTE PROMPTS FOR COSMOS – EPISODE II:

One Voice in the Cosmic Fugue

“Evolution is a fact, not a theory—it really happened”

1. Are organic molecules common or rare in the universe?

2. The Tale of the Heiki

What organism became more likely to survive?

This was an example of _____ selection.

There are more (extinct species / species that exist today).

3. Cosmic Calendar (15 billion years compressed to 12 “months”) events relating to life on Earth:

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

4. The thread of life

There are almost no important differences between _____ and humans.

5. Royal Botanic Gardens

___Plants need animals more than animals need plants or

___Animals need plants more than plants need animals

6. The common chemistry of life

Note the stylistic homage to “Powers of Ten”

There are as many atoms in a molecule of DNA as there are...

7. The number of possible kinds of human beings is greater than...

8. How did the molecules of life arise? Miller-Urey Experiment.

Water vapor + hydrogen + methane + ammonia + electrical discharge =

9. What might forms of life look like, say, on a gas giant planet like Jupiter?

10. Update?