**Name: Period: Date:**

**Focus Questions for 8/28 (Speciation)**

# Questions to answer as you watch the videos and/or read about how genetic diversity impacts evolution. You will not be asked to turn these in, but Ms. Ransom may check to make sure you have completed them. You should be ready to discuss the answers during class.

1. How is the term “species” defined in biology?
2. How do prezygotic reproductive barriers compare to postzygotic barriers? What are some common examples of each?
3. Summarize the limitations of the biological species concept. What are some alternate ways to define a species?
4. Suppose you are studying two bird species that live in a forest and are not known to interbreed. One species feeds and mates in the treetops and the other on the ground. But in captivity, the birds interbreed and produce viable, fertile offspring. What type of reproductive barrier most likely keeps these species separate in nature? Explain.
5. Compare and contrast allopatric speciation with sympatric speciation. Provide examples of each.
6. Do new species evolve gradually over time or in short bursts? What evidence exists to support one idea or the other?
7. How was the speciation event that produced the wild sunflower *Helianthus anomalus* tested in the lab? What were the results?
8. Is speciation considered microevolution or macroevolution? Defend your choice.

**Questions I have, that I plan to ask about in class:**