Phylum Chordata – Summary

Answer the following questions.

1. What are the three features that define Phylum Chordata?

2. Give three examples of chordates which are invertebrates:

3. What do vertebrates have that makes them special Chordates?

4. What one feature distinguishes Vertebrate animals and Invertebrate animals from each other?

5. a) Which vertebrate classes are ectothermic (poikilotherms)? _____

b) Which vertebrate classes are endothermic (homeotherms)?_____

c) ectothermic means: _____ endothermic means _____

6. What is different about the eggs of birds, reptiles and monotremes compared to other animal eggs?

7. How are Bony Fish, Chondrichthyes and Agnatha all different? How are they all the same?

	Osteichthyes	Chondrichthyes	Agnatha
Similarities			
Differences			

8. Explain why the respiratory system of birds is considered to be very efficient.

9. How are the bodies of birds adapted to help them fly? (three ways)

10. What physical feature do all mammals have which indicates that they provide a lot of care to their young?
_____

11. Explain how the design of the heart of birds and mammals more efficient than the heart of other vertebrates?

12. Name the three different types of mammals in terms of their method of development during reproduction?

Type of Mammal	Method of Development

13. Why do birds produce very few eggs, while amphibians produce hundreds at a time? (3-4 reasons)

14. What are two benefits of having a shelled egg compared to not having a shell for an animal that reproduces on land?

_____

15. Explain how each body covering is an adaptation for the vertebrate class indicated.

Vertebrate Class	Body Covering	Importance/Adaptation
Amphibia		
Reptilia		
Mammalia		

16. What is the difference between internal fertilization and external fertilization?

_____

17. Why do animals have such a variety of means of locomotion while plants do not and yet there are lots of types of plants?

_____

18. Describe the lifecycle of a frog and the role of metamorphosis? (page 193 in text)

19. Looking ahead to Unit 3, explain how an endotherm such as man maintains a fairly constant body temperature (see pages 300-303).
