

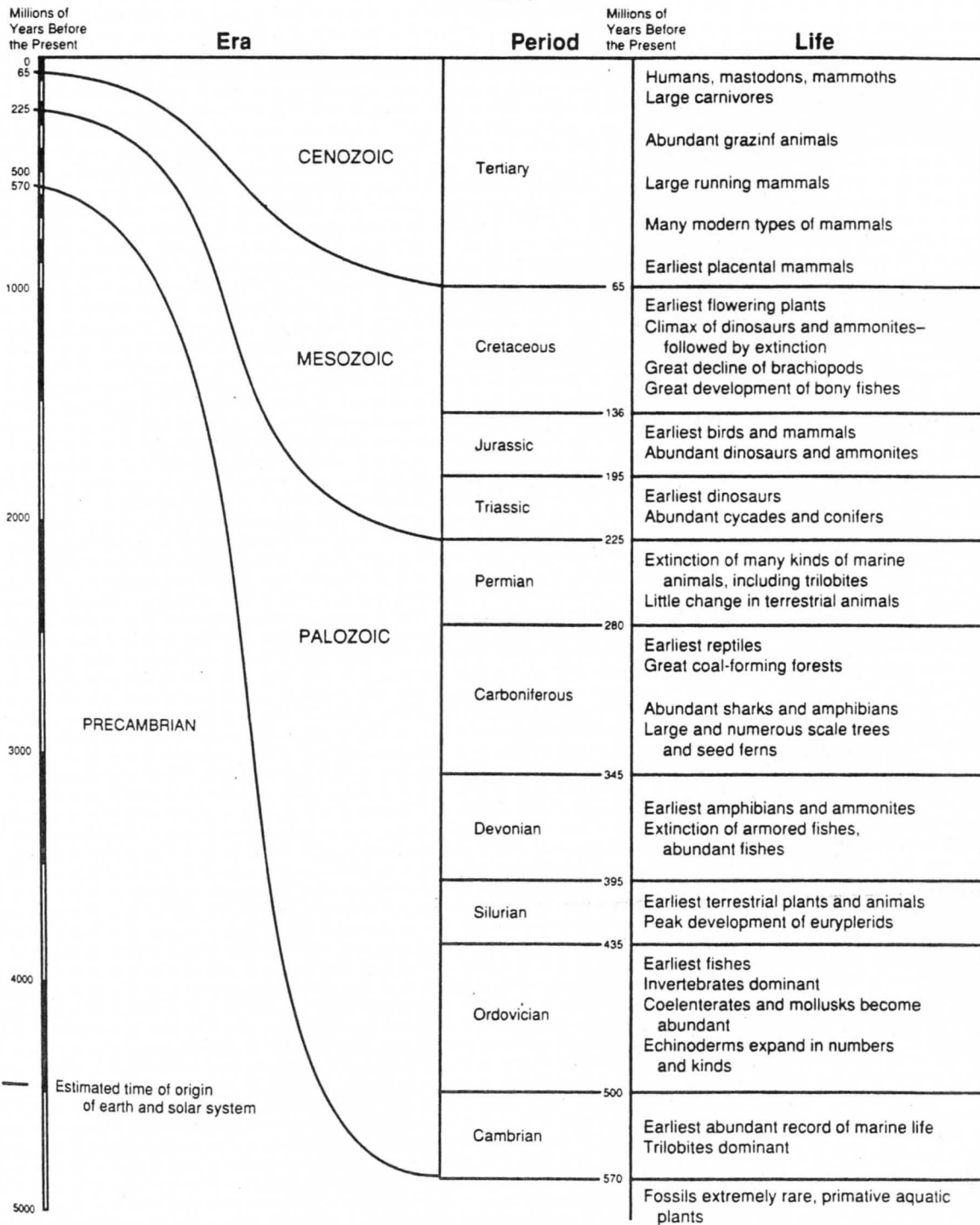
Activity

Changes in Living Things Over Time

Interpreting the Geologic Time Scale

Use information from the diagram to answer the questions on the next page.

Geologic Time Scale



1. According to the diagram, all of geologic time is divided into four large units of time called eras. List the four eras in order from the one that is most recent to the one that occurred longest ago.

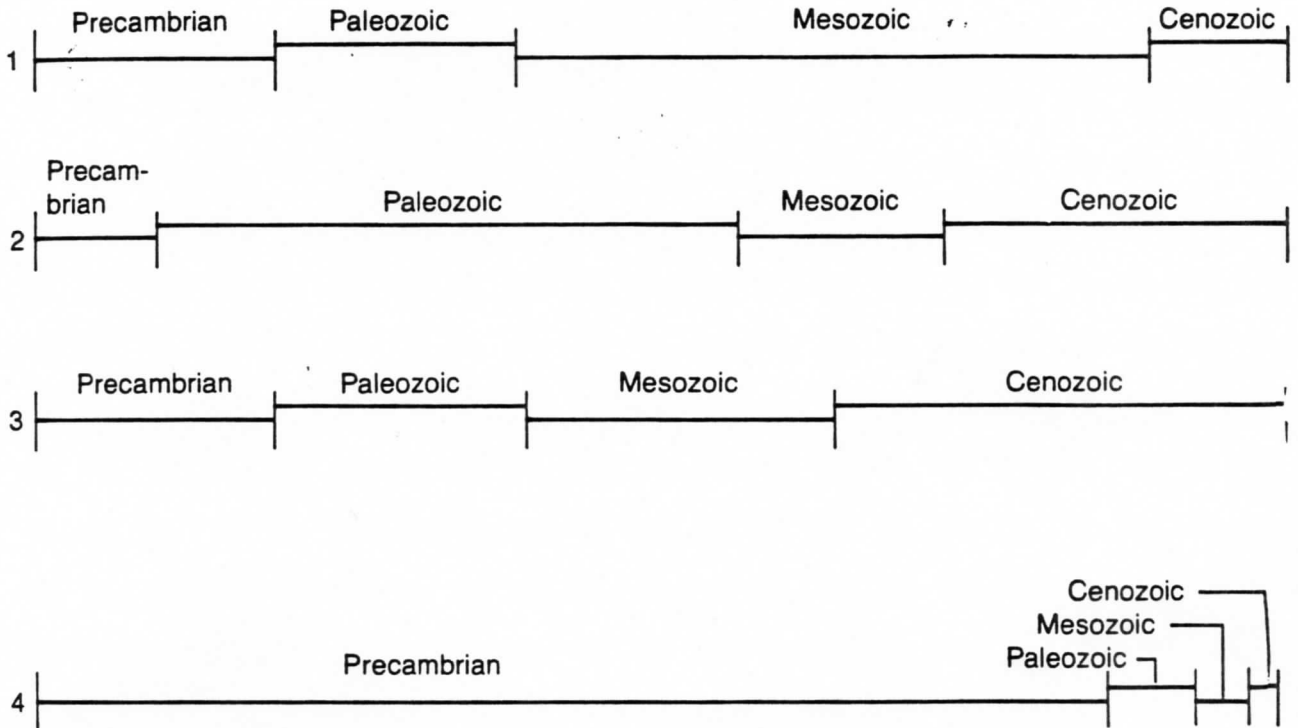
_____ (most recent)

_____ (occurred longest ago)

2. Which of the eras lasted for the longest period of time? _____
How long did it last? _____
3. Which era covers the shortest length of geologic time? _____
4. In what era do we live? _____
When did it start? _____
5. When did the Mesozoic Era begin? _____
When did it end? _____
How long did it last? _____
What type of animal lived only during the Mesozoic Era? _____
6. Complete the following chart by identifying the era and period when the life forms first appeared.

Life Forms	Era	Period
Earliest fishes		
Earliest mammals		
Earliest reptiles		
Earliest flowering plants		
Earliest humans		
Earliest dinosaurs		

7. Write the number of the line that is the best representation of the relative length of each of the geologic time intervals. _____



8. Which sequence of geologic time represents increasing lengths of time? _____

1. Ordovician, Triassic, Tertiary
2. Jurassic, Cretaceous, Tertiary
3. Triassic, Devonian, Cambrian
4. Carboniferous, Devonian, Cretaceous