

Character Matrix for Constructing a Cladogram

Student Version

Fill in the table below, indicating a "0" if the trait is absent in the group and a "1" if the trait is present.

	Vertabrae	Bony skeleton	Four limbs	Amniotic egg	Feathers
Human					
Bird					
Salamander					
Fish					
Shark					
Total shared traits					

Answer Key for Teachers

	Vertabrae	Bony skeleton	Four limbs	Amniotic egg	Feathers
Human	1	1	1	1	0
Bird	1	1	1	1	1
Salamander	1	1	1	0	0
Fish	1	1	0	0	0
Shark	1	0	0	0	0
Total shared traits	5	4	3	2	1

Sample Cladograms

