

Extra Credit Reading
SURVIVAL OF THE SICKEST

Name: _____

1. What prompted the author's interest in biology?
2. What are the consequences of hemochromatosis if it's left untreated?
3. What are the consequences of a shortage of iron?
4. What are chelators, and where are they found?
5. Which members of the population were mostly susceptible to the plague? Why?
6. Why has hemochromatosis remained in the population? What evolutionary advantage does it confer?
7. What benefit does being a carrier of the CF gene provide?
8. How are type 1 and type 2 diabetes different?
9. How does the human body react to severe cold?
10. What evidence is there that predisposition to diabetes might be related to the human cold response?
11. What is a vitamin?
12. Why do many people of Asian descent get the "Asian flush" when they drink alcohol?
13. Why are African Americans prone to high blood pressure?
14. What "weapons" do plants use as defense mechanisms?

15. Why might you NOT want to eat organic celery?
16. What is the “barrier effect?”
17. Why should pregnant women avoid raw meat and cleaning the cat box?
18. What is “host manipulation?” Provide an example from the text.
19. What did Edward Jenner do?
20. What are “jumping genes?”
21. Why don’t most scientists consider viruses to be alive?
22. Why were brown skinny mice a surprise in the Duke epigenetics study?
23. How might epigenetics be playing a role in rising childhood obesity rates?
24. What is the Hayflick limit for human cells?
25. What is telomerase, and what is its role in cancer?
26. Did you like this book? Why or why not?
27. What did you learn about the scientific process by reading this book?