

Cytochrome c is a protein needed for aerobic cellular respiration. It is found in nearly all organisms. The amino acid sequence of cytochrome c can be different in different organisms. The table below shows the number of differences observed when the amino acid sequences of cytochrome c in different organisms are compared.

Organisms	Number of Differences between Amino Acid Sequences
horses and whales	5
chickens and snakes	18
silk moths and snakes	29
whales and penguins	10

Which of the following conclusions is **best** supported by this data?

- A. Snakes are more closely related to silk moths than to chickens.
- B. Chickens and snakes evolved more recently than horses or whales.
- C. Whales and penguins evolved more recently than any of the other organisms.
- D. Horses and whales are more closely related to each other than the other pairs of organisms are.