

This is a graded discussion: 5 points possible

due Sep 9, 2019

37 / 37

Disc. **Diving deeper into equine history**

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Instructions

This week, you will be taking what you learned last week and this week about color, markings, evolution and breeds and diving in deeper in something that interested you. I would like you to dive into a breed, special color (not chestnut or bay please), or one of the species that represented a step in Equus evolution, and do some research on the history and the significance of that topic. You can find a popular news article, a podcast, or a video that dives into the history of that topic. I would like you to then type up a paragraph explaining this to a layperson (someone who has no experience with horses). This means you will need to define basic terms, and spell out why something is important.

But How?

Here are some ideas for jumping off points if you are stuck! You could talk about the research article I included in the evolution lecture about how the Przewalski horse may actually be considered feral, this [podcast](#) on the Arabian breed, or you could explain the genetics of a brindle colored horse. The topic does not have to be one I touched on in class, please choose something you are interested in learning more about! But do keep it interesting/significant - again, no talking about the bay and chestnut horses, but you could talk about the significance of palominos in history or the genetics of a brindle horse. Talking about the history of the thoroughbred, QH, or Arabian would also be acceptable, just make sure to touch on the history aspect of these breeds, what they were bred for and why it was significant in that time period.

To gain full points, you need to write a paragraph explaining:

1. Why the topic you chose is significant to the equine industry today.
2. The history behind a breed, color, or species (Who, what, why, how)
3. What significance this topic has to you (any personal connections)

You also need to write this paragraph as if you were talking to a layperson with no horse experience - maybe your mom?

Points will be deducted for incorrect spelling and grammar.

But Why?

Because we said so! Just kidding, mostly. As students possible heading into the horse industry and definitely heading into more college courses, we want to make sure that you have the skills necessary to go out and learn more about a topic you are interested in. You will just about always have access to a computer and the magical world of the internet as you continue on as students and eventually employees, and it is a valuable skill to be able to find trustworthy resources on something you need to know more about. Our jobs as educators is to prepare you for the "real world", and being able to quickly supplement your own knowledge and teach yourself new things is an important skill. While you may not remember what the genetics behind a perlino horse is after this class, I hope you know how to dig into a topic to go past what information has been given to you. You may just end up with some fun facts to tell at parties while you're at it (I'm telling you, the brindle coloring is a great one for that). We also would like you to learn to communicate what you know to someone with no experience in that field, as well as continue getting practice writing well.

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