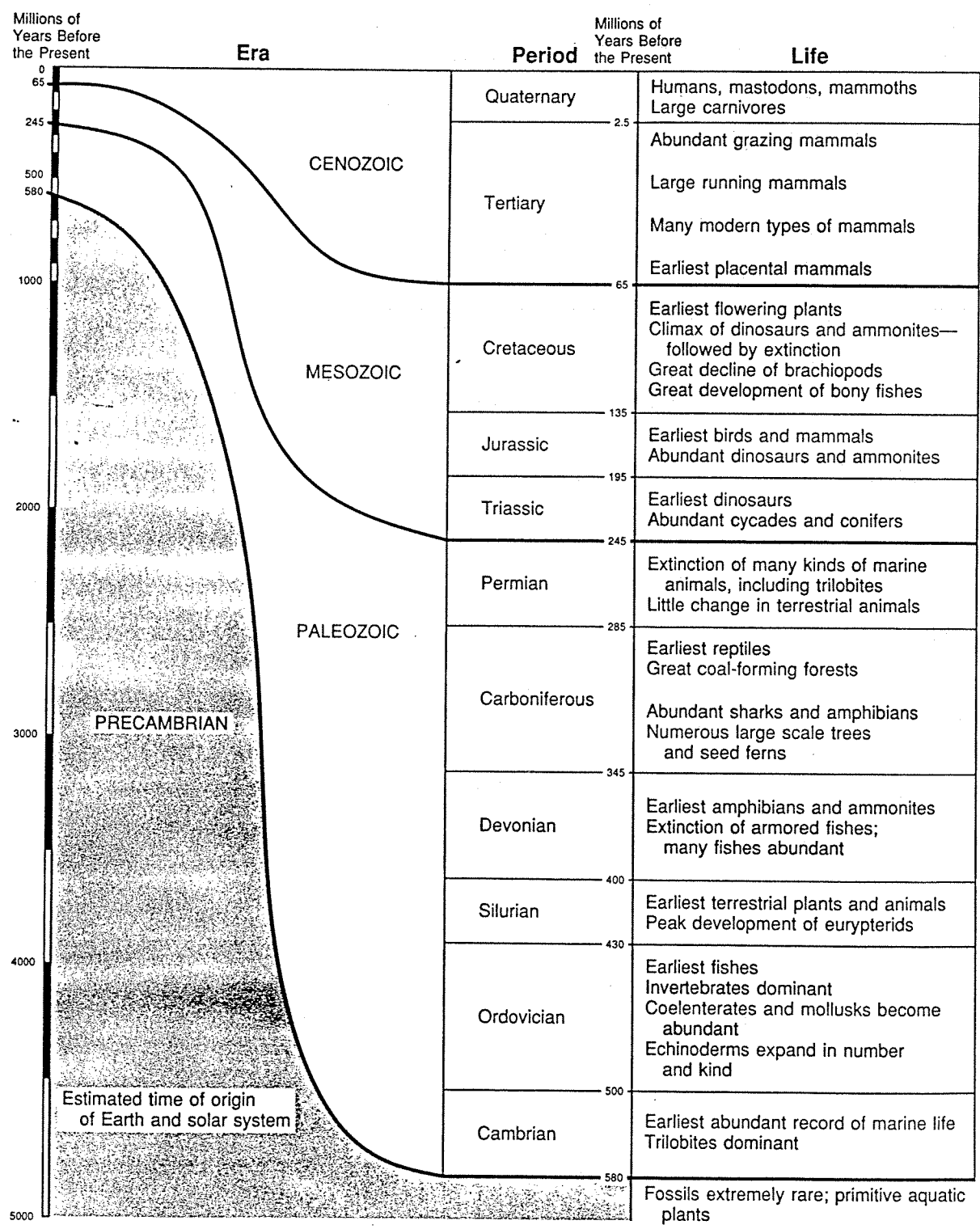


The Geologic Time Scale

Use the information from the diagram below to answer the accompanying questions.



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

_____ (most recent)

_____ (farthest back in time)

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. What time era do we live in? _____ 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	_____	_____