Temporal Ranges and Relationships of Some Major Chordate Fossil Groups

Cenozoic
- Quaternary
  - Tertiary
- Cretaceous
  - Jurassic
  - Triassic
- Permian
- Pennsylvanian
- Mississippian
- Devonian
- Silurian
- Ordovician
- Cambrian

Paleozoic
- Carboniferous
  - Pennsylvanian
- Mississippian
- Devonian
- Silurian
- Ordovician
- Cambrian

The main thing that Railsback wants his students to retain from this document is the age ranges of each of the five classes of vertebrates and the ancestral group from which each arose. For example, the amphibians have an age range from Devonian to present and arose from ancestors among the crossopterygian fishes. The main thing that Railsback wants his students to retain from this document is the age ranges of each of the five classes of vertebrates and the ancestral group from which each arose. For example, the amphibians have an age range from Devonian to present and arose from ancestors among the crossopterygian fishes. These thoughts combine to summarize, albeit crudely, the history of vertebrate organisms.