

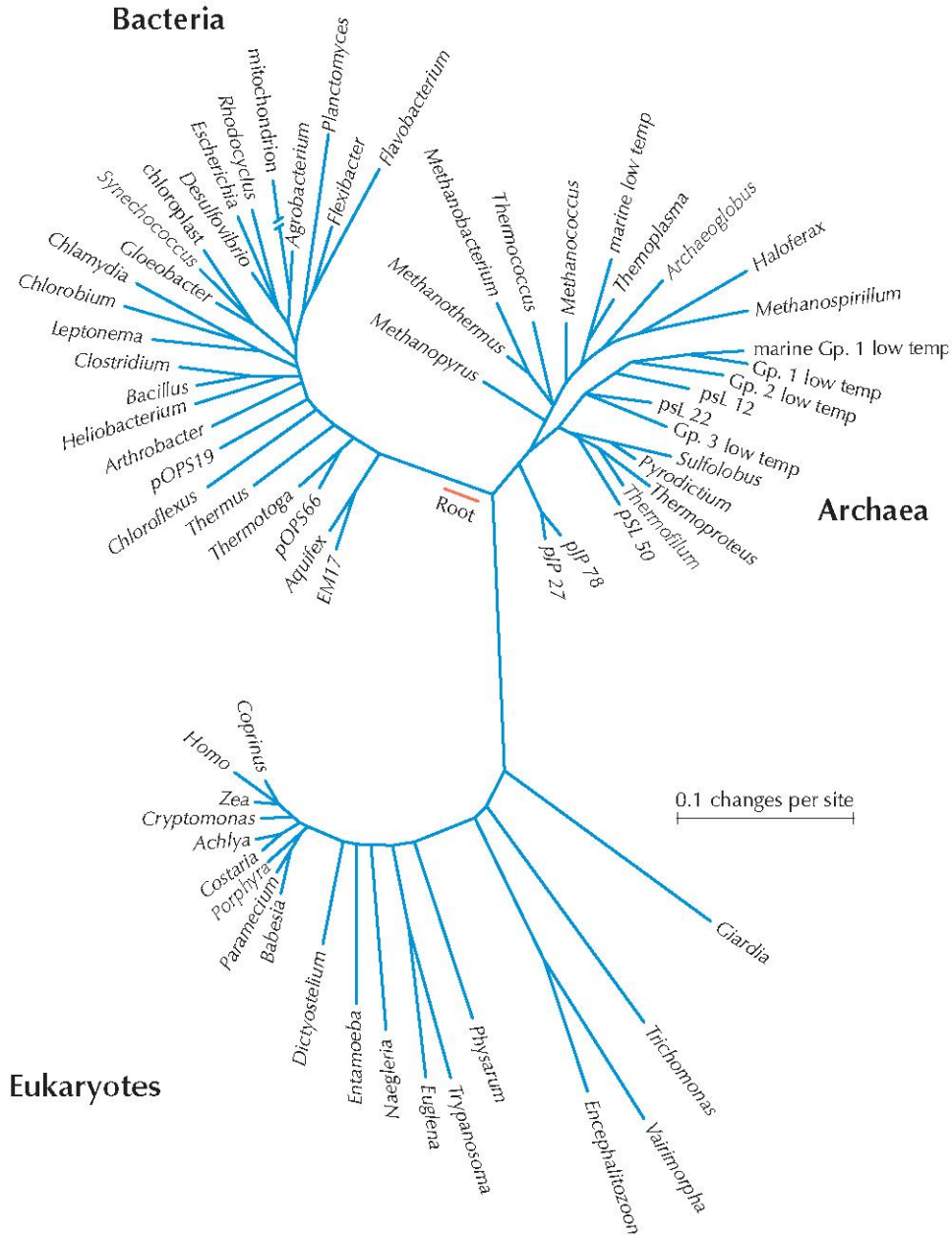


FIGURE 5.17. A phylogenetic tree with representatives of each of the three domains of life. The tree is based primarily on analysis of sequences of small-subunit rRNA molecules. It is believed that the positions of some organisms in this tree do not accurately reflect their true phylogenetic position (e.g., see Box 8.1 for a more thorough discussion of the evolution of eukaryotes and the back endpaper for a more up-to-date tree). Nevertheless, the division of life into three domains is supported by analyses of many other characteristics.

5.17, redrawn from Pace N.R., *Science* **276**: 734–740, © 1977 American Association for the Advancement of Science