

This statement is far from fanciful. Not only do the body fluids of the lower forms of marine life correspond exactly with sea water in their composition, but there are at least strong indications that the fluids of the highest animals are really descended from sea water, from the sea water of an earlier epoch, to be sure, and they are not changed beyond recognition by the transformations of evolution.¹ A comparison of the relative amounts of various saline constituents in sea water and in mammalian blood (roughly averaged from a variety of measurements in different species) will demonstrate this relationship.

COMPOSITION OF THE SALTS IN PER CENT

	SEA WATER	BLOOD SERUM
Na	30.59	39
Mg	3.79	0.4
Ca	1.20	1
K	1.11	2.7
Cl	55.27	45
SO ₄	7.66	
CO ₃	0.21	12
Br	0.19	
P ₂ O ₆		0.4

¹ See the interesting paper by Macallum, Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, 1908, II, p. 145.