| Context | Shared Similarities |
|---------------|---|
| Skull | 1. Snout relatively short |
| | 2. Simplified set of turbinal bones |
| | 3. Enlarged, forward-facing orbits |
| | 4. Postorbital bar present |
| | 5. Pattern of bones in medial orbital wall |
| | 6. Well-developed jugal bone with foramen |
| | 7. Enlarged braincase |
| | 8. Inflated auditory bulla containing 'free' ectotympanic ring |
| | 9. Internal carotid pattern (bony tubes) |
| | 10. 'Advanced' form of auditory ossicles |
| Dentition | 1. Tooth-comb present at front of lower jaw, linked with a specialized, serrated sublingua |
| | 2. Reduced dental formula |
| | 3. Similarities in cheek teeth between tree-shrews and certain primates with relatively primitive cheek teeth |
| | (e.g. <i>Tarsius</i>) |
| Postcranial | 1. Limbs and digits highly mobile |
| morphology | 2. Numerous details of limb musculature |
| | 3. Osteological similarities in both forelimbs and hindlimbs |
| | 4. Ridged skin on palms and soles |
| Brain and | 1. Olfactory apparatus reduced |
| sense organs | 2. Visual apparatus enhanced |
| | 3. Central, avascular area of retina |
| | 4. Neocortex expanded; brain size increased |
| | 5. Calcarine sulcus present |
| Reproductive | 1. Penis pendulous; testes scrotal |
| biology | 2. Discoidal placenta, as in tarsiers and simians |
| | 3. Small litter size; small number of teats |
| Miscellaneous | 1. Caecum present |
| | 2. Molecular affinities (e.g. albumins) |

Table 1 This table shows supposed shared characteristics between tree-shrews and primates, from Martin (1990)