



IDIOMATIC PHRASES 1

Account for—explain, explicate, elucidate

Became important—preeminent, foremost

Given way to—replaced by

Happened at the same time-- coincided with, coincidentally [concurrent]

Make effort—exerted oneself [applied]

Make use of—availed themselves

No matter what—irrespective, regardless, nonetheless

Thanks to [because of]—since

Ancient Trees

Among the Earth's approximately three trillion mature trees, with an estimated 60,000 to 100,000 species, are the Huon or Macquarie pine trees found on Mount Read, Tasmania, Australia. No matter what the trees are called, botanists classify them as podocarps and not true pine trees. Scientists account for this classification because the trees have adapted from the scale-like or needle-like foliage of the pine to flattened and often broad-leafed trees that make effective use of light in shaded areas. Their evolution during the past 65 million years happened at the same time as larger ecological and climatic changes occurred. Thanks to their existence as a clonal colony and not individual trees, the Huon trees became important because of their record setting 10,000-year longevity. The oldest recorded individual tree is a 9,550-year-old Norwegian spruce tree in the Darlana Province of Sweden named "Old Tjikko". Over the centuries, the tree has made an effort to push out another trunk as the other one died. This vegetative cloning process by which one trunk has given way to the next has been tested by carbon-14 dating of genetically matched plant material collected under the tree by a laboratory in Miami, Florida, USA.



Huon Pine

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagarostrobos>



Old Tjikko

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Tjikko

Fill-in the blanks with words in the Word Bank.

Word Bank: availed themselves—coincided with—exerted itself—explain—
irrespective—preeminent—replaced by—since

Among the Earth's approximately three trillion mature trees, with an estimated 60,000 to 100,000 species, are the Huon or Macquarie pine trees found on Mount Read, Tasmania, Australia. [1.] _____ of the name, botanists classify them as podocarps and not true pine trees. Scientists [2.] _____ this classification because the trees have adapted from the scale-like or needle-like foliage of the pine to flattened and often broad-leafed trees that [3.] _____ of light in shaded areas. Their evolution during the past 65 million years [4.] _____ larger ecological and climatic changes occurred. [5.] _____ they exist as a clonal colony and not individual trees, the Huon trees became [6.] _____ because of their record setting 10,000-year longevity. The oldest recorded individual tree is a 9,550-year-old Norwegian spruce tree in the Darlana Province of Sweden. Over the centuries, the tree has [7.] _____ to push out another trunk as the other one died. This vegetative cloning process by which one trunk has been [8.] _____ the next has been tested by carbon-14 dating of genetically matched plant material collected under the tree by a laboratory in Miami, Florida, USA.

Answer Key: 1. Irrespective, 2. explain, [3.] availed themselves, [4.] coincided with, [5.] Since, [6.] preeminent, [7.] exerted itself, [8.] replaced by