

Name _____

How Do Scientists Use Carbon-14 to Date Ancient Artifacts?

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is carbon-14 found in?
 - A. Living things
 - B. Only the ocean
 - C. Rocks and metal
 - D. Computers

2. What happens to carbon-14 when a plant or animal dies?
 - A. It grows faster
 - B. It disappears immediately
 - C. It stops being made and starts breaking down
 - D. It turns into gold

3. What does "half-life" mean?
 - A. The life of a half-plant
 - B. The time it takes for half of the carbon-14 to break down
 - C. A half-day
 - D. The number of times something is cut in half

4. What type of object would not be dated using carbon-14?
 - A. A wooden canoe
 - B. A fossilized leaf
 - C. An ancient bone
 - D. A gold coin

5. Why is carbon-14 dating useful to scientists?
 - A. It keeps plants alive
 - B. It tells the future
 - C. It helps them know when something lived
 - D. It measures the size of bones

