



Decades-Long Doorstop Rock Shocks Owners with \$1 Million Value!

Description

The adage that one person's refuse is another's treasure epitomizes the curious case of a seemingly ordinary stone, long employed as a doorstop, which has emerged as a magnificent gem—one of the largest and most pristine amber specimens globally.

Weighing approximately 3.5 kilograms (7.7 pounds), this remarkable find was unearthed by an elderly Romanian woman from the sedimentary cradle of a streambed in southeastern Romania, subsequently repurposed for decades in her household.

Unbeknownst to her, this seemingly mundane rock represents not merely a sentimental object but a veritable treasure, with an estimated valuation nearing €1 million (approximately \$1.1 million), as reported by [El Pais](#). This extraordinary lump of amber epitomizes the fossilization of tree resin, a process that unfolds over eons, transforming the viscous material into a captivating jewel appreciated across cultures.

Resin oozing out of a tree's bark

Resin forming beneath the bark of a tree. ([KevinDyer/Canva](#))

Amber, particularly known as [rumanite](#) in Romania, is primarily sourced from the vicinity of [Colti](#), a region renowned for its rich deposits within the River Buzau sandstone formations, where extraction has been ongoing since the 1920s.

In a serendipitous twist, following the woman's demise in 1991, her heir recognized the potential significance of this unassuming object. Upon valuation by specialists at the Museum of History in Krakow, it was determined that this amber nugget is estimated to be between 38 and 70 million years old, a testament to its extraordinary endurance.

Daniel Costache, director of the Provincial Museum of Buzau, remarked that this discovery holds immense scientific and cultural import, leading to its classification as a national treasure, now exhibited at the museum since 2022.

Thus, while the elderly woman merely used the amber as a doorstop, her remarkable find illustrates the potential hidden value within our everyday lives—a nudging reminder that beneath the surface of the ordinary often lies the extraordinary.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Epitomizes** /ɪˈpɪtəˌmaɪz/ (verb): To serve as a perfect example of a quality or type.
2. **Unearthed** /ʌnˈɜrθt/ (verb): To discover or reveal something that was hidden or buried.
3. **Valuation** /ˌvæljuˈeɪʃən/ (noun): The process of estimating the worth or value of something.
4. **Specimen** /ˈspɛsɪmən/ (noun): An individual or part representative of a class or group.



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5. **Taxonomy** /tæk'sɒnəmi/ (noun): The science of classification especially in biology.
6. **Fossilization** /ˌfɒsɪlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ (noun): The process by which organic material is preserved in sediment.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What was the weight of the remarkable amber find?
- Option: 1.5 kilograms
 - Option: 3.5 kilograms
 - Option: 5.5 kilograms
 - Option: 7.5 kilograms
2. From which region was the amber unearthed by the elderly Romanian woman?
- Option: Central Romania
 - Option: Northern Romania
 - Option: Western Romania
 - Option: Southeastern Romania
3. Where is the amber now exhibited since 2022?
- Option: Provincial Museum of Buzau
 - Option: Tate Modern
 - Option: Museum of Natural History
 - Option: Louvre Museum
4. Amber is particularly known as what in Romania?
- Option: Goldite
 - Option: Silverite
 - Option: Rubyite
 - Option: Rumanite
5. The amber nugget is estimated to be between how many years old?
- Option: 10-20 million years
 - Option: 20-30 million years
 - Option: 30-40 million years
 - Option: 38-70 million years



6. Who recognized the potential significance of the amber after the woman's demise?

Option: A local miner

Option: A geologist

Option: Her heir

Option: A museum curator

True-False

7. The elderly Romanian woman discovered the amber in her garden.

8. The amber nugget is valued at approximately \$2 million.

9. The amber was classified as a national treasure by the Museum of History in Krakow.

10. The amber was initially used as a paperweight by the woman.

11. Amber is formed through the fossilization of tree resin.

12. The amber finding was exhibited at the museum starting in 2020.

13. The estimated valuation of the amber nugget is approximately €_____ million.

Gap-Fill

13. The estimated valuation of the amber nugget is approximately €_____ million.

14. Extraction of amber has been ongoing in the region since the _____s.

15. The classification of the amber as a national treasure led to it being exhibited at the museum since _____.

16. Rumanite is a common name for amber in _____.

17. The amber nugget is estimated to be between _____ and _____ million years old.



18. The person who recognized the value of the amber after the woman's death was her

_____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 3.5 kilograms 2. Southeastern Romania 3. Provincial Museum of Buzau 4. Rumanite
5. 38-70 million years 6. Her heir

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. False 13. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 1 14. 1920 15. 2022 16. Romania 17. 38, 70 18. heir

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is the term used to describe the relationship or connection between two or more things?

- Option: A) Cognitive
- Option: B) Correlate
- Option: C) Cerebrospinal
- Option: D) Contamination

2. Which word means to make something clear or explain something?

- Option: A) Innovative
- Option: B) Elucidates
- Option: C) Pathology
- Option: D) Fossilization

3. What is the term for taking steps to lessen the severity or extent of something?

- Option: A) Mitigate
- Option: B) Infiltration
- Option: C) Precipitated
- Option: D) Nexus

4. Which word describes introducing new ideas or methods?

- Option: A) Synchronized
- Option: B) Mitigate
- Option: C) Innovative
- Option: D) Unearthed



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5. To cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly is to _____.
Option: A) Taxonomy
Option: B) Epitomizes
Option: C) Adsorption
Option: D) Precipitated
6. Which term refers to a practice that can be maintained over the long term without depleting resources?
Option: A) Trajectory
Option: B) Correlate
Option: C) Sustainable
Option: D) Amalgamation
7. What is the process of combining or uniting multiple entities into one?
Option: A) Annihilation
Option: B) Mitigate
Option: C) Amalgamation
Option: D) Infiltration
8. Which word describes the path followed by a projectile or an object moving under the action of given forces?
Option: A) Synaptic
Option: B) Trajectory
Option: C) Enigmatic
Option: D) Valuation
9. What is a central or most important point?
Option: A) Infiltration
Option: B) Nexus
Option: C) Elucidates
Option: D) Contamination
10. Which word refers to a single item example or representative of a group?
Option: A) Taxonomy
Option: B) Contamination
Option: C) Specimen
Option: D) Synchronized

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The _____ puzzle has puzzled scientists for decades.



12. _____ is the process in which a solid holds molecules of a gas or liquid on its surface.
13. The unexpected power outage caused the company to _____ its production schedule.
14. Proper _____ of the antique vase required the expertise of a skilled appraiser.
15. Before conducting the experiment the scientist formulated a _____ to test.
16. The process of _____ can preserve the remains of animals and plants for millions of years.
17. The study of the causes and effects of diseases is known as _____.
18. Communication between neurons occurs at the _____ junction.
19. The discovery of water _____ raised concerns about the safety of the local population.
20. Total destruction or _____ of the enemy forces was the primary objective of the battle.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The sudden appearance of a double rainbow after the rain shower amazed everyone.
22. The fluid surrounds the brain and spinal cord protecting them from injury.
23. Archaeologists ancient artifacts buried beneath the temple ruins.
24. Biologists use to classify and organize living organisms into hierarchical groups.
25. The of the new treatment in reducing pain was proven in clinical trials.
26. The spy's mission involved a secret into the enemy's headquarters.
27. His dedication and hard work the values of the company.



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| 28. The merger of the two companies resulted in a successful of resources and expertise. |
| 29. The dancers performed a beautifully routine that captivated the audience. |
| 30. An accurate of the artwork required knowledge of art history and current market trends. |

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. B) Correlate 2. B) Elucidates 3. A) Mitigate 4. C) Innovative 5. D) Precipitated 6. C) Sustainable 7. C) Amalgamation 8. B) Trajectory 9. B) Nexus 10. C) Specimen

Gap-Fill: 11. Enigmatic 12. Adsorption 13. Disrupt 14. Valuation 15. Hypothesis 16. Fossilization 17. Pathology 18. Synaptic 19. Contamination 20. Annihilation

Matching sentence: 1. Phenomenon 2. Cerebrospinal 3. Unearthed 4. Taxonomy 5. Efficacy 6. Infiltration 7. Epitomizes 8. Amalgamation 9. Synchronized 10. Valuation

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL6

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