

Measuring Absolute Time



Name _____ Block _____

Refer to pp. 606-609 in your textbook.

1. Why is counting tree rings a good measure of absolute time?
2. What are the oldest living trees?
3. What are varves?
4. How are varves useful for determining dates?
5. Name three types of radiation given off by radioactive elements.
 - (a)
 - (b)
 - (c)
6. Define **half-life**:
7. Describe the radioactive decay of 16 grams of thorium-234.
8. What is the **half-life** of radiocarbon?
9. Which carbon isotope is used for radiocarbon dating and how does it work?
10. On what kinds of materials can radiocarbon dating be used?
11. What radioactive dating method works on rocks?

