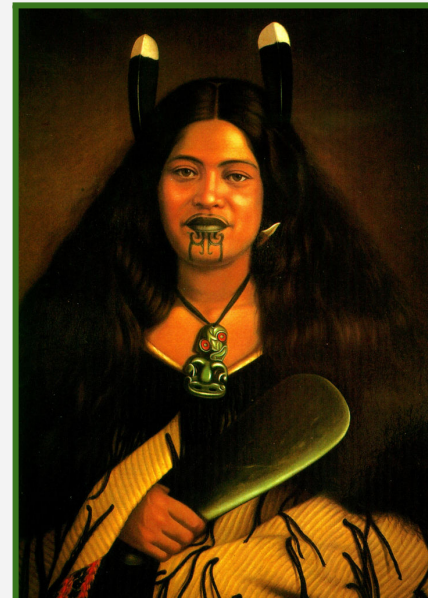


Pounamu is an important part of Māori culture. The beautiful green stone is a treasure/taonga to New Zealanders.

Pounamu can only be found in the South Island/Te Waipounamu. The local tribe/iwi were rich after trading pounamu to other iwi as all **admired** its colour and **hardness**. Pounamu was used to carve wood and was made into weapons such as short handled clubs, tools like fish hooks or charms such as a tiki.

Today pounamu is still highly valued, particularly those that are passed down through the generations. Māori believe that the pounamu contains the power/mana of those who wore it before.



Questions (look in the text for highlight clues!)

- 1) Where is the only place you can find pounamu in New Zealand?
- 2) What were two things about pounamu that Māori found very pleasing?
- 3) What did the iwi do with the pounamu they found on their land?
- 4) Which of these Māori words means something that is highly valued?
 - a) mana
 - b) Iwi
 - c) taonga
- 5) What is one way that pounamu was used as a tool?
- 6) How can the actions of iwi prove that the pounamu must have been very **hard**?
- 7) What do Māori believe about very old pounamu objects?

Local economies and trade

Produced by Paul Tucker@Orewa College (2023)

New Words (look in the text for highlight clues!)

What do you think the word **admired** means in the story? Read the sentence.

Does it mean:

- a) Māori had great respect for pounamu.
- b) Māori thought the stone was hard.
- c) Māori traded the pounamu with iwi.

A naming word used in place of a noun (Pronouns)

For each sentence find the word that replaces a noun.

- 1) The tiki she wore was very old.
- 2) I raised the pounamu high in the sky.
- 3) The boy saw himself in the water.

The Ngai Tahu tribe of the South Island find pounamu boulders in their territory. Traditionally they were the ones who traded the pounamu to other tribes.

