

An Ageless Story

Every so often we can read about a man or woman who has reached an age far beyond the limits we ordinarily expect. Reports of a man in Chile or a woman in Turkey who has celebrated the 105th or 110th birthday occur regularly. The natural question is, to what do these people owe their longevity? Frequently, the answer concerns the fact that the ancient one liked to imbibe regularly of some hard liquor. The photograph will show an apparently virile man or robust woman. Somehow, people who reach this advanced age seem to remain eternally sturdy. There are no signs that they have become senile. Smoking a pipe, or sewing on some garment, these rare specimens of hardy humanity are far from doddering folk we expect to see.

Vocabulary

imbibe – drink

virile – strong and full of energy

senile - showing poor mental ability because of old age

doddering - weak & unable to walk in a steady way, usually because you are old

Comprehension Questions

1. Which countries do reports of people celebrating 105th or 110th birthdays occur regularly?
2. What did the ancient one liked to imbibe regularly?
3. What shows that they have no signs of being senile?

You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.

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