

1. When the drought eliminated the small seeds the birds got bigger beaks so they could eat bigger seeds.

2. There were always some finches with larger beaks but before the drought they didn't have a big advantage over the smaller beaked birds.

3. Some finches happened to be born with larger beaks and they had a better chance of surviving during the drought.

4. The finches adapted to their new drier environment.

5. The finches had to change so they wouldn't starve.

6. The finches got bigger beaks so they could survive when the smaller seeds disappeared.

7. The finches got larger beaks to survive and when they reproduced their offspring had larger beaks too.

8. The average beak size increased because the available food in the environment changed as a result of the drought.