Ancient Egyptians

The ancient Egyptians lived over 5000 years ago from 3100 BC to 332 BC. They lived along parts of the river Nile in Kemet, now known as Egypt.

What Jobs Did They Do?

There were lots of different jobs in ancient Egypt, such as scribes, bakers, priests, doctors, craftsmen, merchants and many more. Many Egyptians worked on farms where they grew crops.

Farming was extremely important to the Egyptians. They created lots of clever tools to farm which allowed them to grow grains and crops. It's believed they lived by the Nile as the yearly flooding meant that the soil was fertile for crops and the river itself was used for drinking water, washing and cleaning.

The Pyramids

Ancient Egyptians believed in an afterlife and that you needed your body and possessions to live there happily. This meant that great care was taken with bodies after death. A process called **mummification** meant the bodies could be buried in the tombs, along with all their possessions.

Some of these tombs are what we now call the Pyramids. The more important the person, the bigger their tomb.

Did You Know...?

Hieroglyphics were drawn all around tombs to tell the life story of the dead and also to help 'guide' that person to the afterlife.

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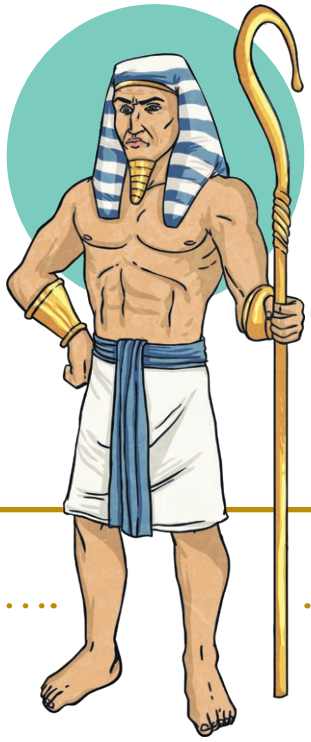
Pharaohs

Egyptian rulers were called pharaohs. They were like kings and were seen as religious leaders that were a bridge between the gods and the Egyptians.



One of the most famous ancient Egyptian pharaohs was Tutankhamun. In 1922, his tomb was discovered by a group of explorers. This discovery was hugely important due to the good condition they found his body in. They also found over 3000 treasures inside, which were either made from or covered in gold. Lots could be learnt from this discovery. The tomb was split into many different rooms.

Did You Know...? **Tutankhamun is also referred to as King Tut.**

Gods

There were more than 2000 gods in ancient Egypt. Many of them took human form but some were represented with heads of animals. They believed that life on Earth was just part of the eternal journey and the gods would guide them through the afterlife.

Did You Know...? **Each god represented an aspect of the Egyptian world, for example, Ra was the god of the sun and Anuket was the god of the river Nile.**

Glossary

mummification	The process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh.
heiroglyphics	The formal writing system used in ancient Egypt.

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Questions

1. How many years ago did the ancient Egyptians live? Tick one.

   - ○ 3100 years ago
   - ○ 5000 years ago
   - ○ 332 years ago
   - ○ 3000 years ago

2. What jobs were done by the ancient Egyptians? Tick **two**.

   - ○ farmers
   - ○ drivers
   - ○ merchants
   - ○ school teachers

3. Draw **four** lines to finish each sentence.

Ancient Egyptians believed in...	bodies after death.
The more important the person,...	an afterlife.
These tombs are what we now call...	the bigger the tomb.
This meant that great care was taken with...	the Pyramids.

4. Find and copy one word which means 'the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh'.

   _____

5. Anuket was the god of what? Tick one.

   - ○ Egyptian people
   - ○ the sun
   - ○ the river Nile
   - ○ afterlife

6. What are hieroglyphics?

   _____

7. Why do you think the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was so important?

   _____

   _____

Answers

1. How many years ago did the ancient Egyptians live? Tick one.

   ○ 3100 years ago
   ✓ **5000 years ago**
   ○ 332 years ago
   ○ 3000 years ago

2. What jobs were done by the ancient Egyptians? Tick **two**.

   ✓ **farmers**
   ○ drivers
   ✓ **merchants**
   ○ school teachers

3. Draw **four** lines to finish each sentence.

Ancient Egyptians believed in...	bodies after death.
The more important the person,...	an afterlife.
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4. Find and copy one word which means 'the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh'.

   mummification

5. Anuket was the god of what? Tick one.

   ○ Egyptian people
   ○ the sun
   ✓ **the river Nile**
   ○ afterlife

6. What are hieroglyphics?

   Hieroglyphics is the name of the writing system used by ancient Egyptians.

7. Why do you think the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was so important?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think this discovery was important because Tutankhamun's body and possessions were in such good condition that they would have been able to learn lots of new things about him and the ancient Egyptians.

Ancient Egyptians

The ancient Egyptians lived over 5000 years ago from 3100 BC to 332 BC. They lived along parts of the river Nile (the longest river in the world) in Kemet, now known as Egypt.

What Jobs Did They Do?

There were a variety of different jobs in ancient Egypt, such as scribes, bakers, priests, doctors, craftsmen, merchants and many more. Inherited from their parents, many Egyptians worked on farms where they grew crops.

Farming was extremely important to the Egyptians and their farming techniques were **innovative**. This allowed them to grow lots of different grains and crops. It's believed they lived by the Nile as the yearly flooding meant the soil was fertile for crops and being close to the river allowed them to use it for drinking water, washing and cleaning. Every year, the river Nile would rise and fall so the Egyptians dug channels and walls to divert flood water towards their fields for farming.

The Pyramids

Ancient Egyptians believed in an afterlife and that your body and possessions would be needed there. A process called **mummification** meant the bodies could be preserved and were buried in a tomb surrounded by all their worldly possessions.

Some of these tombs are what we now know as the Pyramids. The more important the person, the bigger their tomb. **Hieroglyphics** would be drawn all around the tomb to tell the life story of the person who died and also to help guide them to the afterlife.

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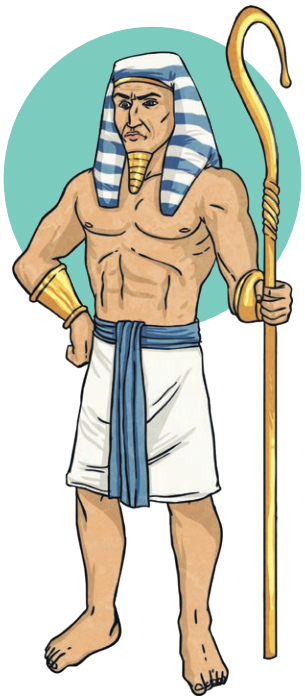
Pharaohs



Egyptian rulers were called pharaohs. They were seen as religious leaders and the bridge between the gods and the Egyptians.

One of the most famous ancient Egyptian pharaohs was Tutankhamun. In 1922, his tomb was discovered by a group of explorers who couldn't believe how well the body had kept along with the number of treasures inside his tomb. Many of the items they found were made from, or covered in, gold and were there for Tutankhamun to take with him into the afterlife. The tomb was split into many different rooms with most of them being home to the objects, apart from the burial chamber which just held his **sarcophagus**.

Did You Know...? **Tutankhamun is also referred to as King Tut.**

Gods

There were more than 2000 gods in ancient Egypt. Many of them took human form but some were represented with heads of animals. The ancient Egyptians believed that life on Earth was just part of the eternal journey so everyone must live a good life in order to be guided by the gods through the afterlife. Each god represented an aspect of the Egyptian world, for example, Ra was the god of the sun and Anuket was the god of the river Nile.

Glossary

innovative	Advanced and original ideas or methods.
mummification	The process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh.
hieroglyphics	The formal writing system used in ancient Egypt.
sarcophagus	A stone coffin, decorated with inscriptions and sculptures.

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Questions

1. The ancient Egyptians lived...? Tick one.

   - ○ from 5000 BC to 3100 BC
   - ○ from 332 BC to 5000 BC
   - ○ from 5000 BC
   - ○ from 3100 BC to 332 BC

2. What did the ancient Egyptians grow by the river Nile?

   _____

3. Why did the ancient Egyptians live by the Nile? Tick **three**.

   - ○ helped to fertilise the soil
   - ○ to learn how to swim
   - ○ for drinking water
   - ○ for washing and cleaning

4. What is mummification? Tick one.

   - ○ when you become a parent
   - ○ travelling to the afterlife
   - ○ being buried in a tomb with your possessions
   - ○ the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh

5. Fill in the missing words:

   Some of these tombs are what we now know as _____ _____. The more important the person, the bigger their _____.

6. Why were hieroglyphics drawn around the tombs? Tick **two**.

   - ○ to make them look rich and beautiful
   - ○ to guide the dead to the afterlife
   - ○ to practise their artwork
   - ○ to tell the life story of the dead

7. Why do you think the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was so important?

   _____

   _____

   _____

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8. Why was it important for ancient Egyptians to live a good life?

_____

_____

_____

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Answers

1. The ancient Egyptians lived...? Tick one.

   ○ from 5000 BC to 3100 BC
   ○ from 332BC to 5000 BC
   ○ from 5000 BC
   ✓ **from 3100 BC to 332 BC**

2. What did the ancient Egyptians grow by the river Nile?

   The ancient Egyptians grew grains and crops by the river Nile.

3. Why did the ancient Egyptians live by the Nile? Tick **three**.

   ✓ **helped to fertilise the soil**
   ○ to learn how to swim
   ✓ **for drinking water**
   ✓ **for washing and cleaning**

4. What is mummification? Tick one.

   ○ when you become a parent
   ○ travelling to the afterlife
   ○ being buried in a tomb with your possessions
   ✓ **the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh**

5. Fill in the missing words:

   Some of these tombs are what we now know as **the pyramids**. The more important the person, the bigger their **tomb.**

6. Why were hieroglyphics drawn around the tombs? Tick **two**.

   ○ to make them look rich and beautiful
   ✓ **to guide the dead to the afterlife**
   ○ to practise their artwork
   ✓ **to tell the life story of the dead**

7. Why do you think the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb was so important?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think this discovery was important because Tutankhamun's body and possessions were in such good condition that they would have been able to learn lots of new things about him and the ancient Egyptians.

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8. Why was it important for ancient Egyptians to live a good life?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: The ancient Egyptians believed they had to lead a good life because life on earth was just part of their eternal journey. In order to be guided by the gods through the afterlife, the Egyptians had to be good people while living on earth.

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Ancient Egyptians

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What Jobs Did They Do?

There were a variety of different jobs in ancient Egypt, such as scribes, bakers, priests, doctors, craftsmen, merchants and many more. Inherited from their parents, many Egyptians worked on farms where they grew crops.

Farming was extremely important to the Egyptians and their farming techniques were **innovative.** This allowed them to grow grains, such as wheat and barley and other crops like flax and papyrus.

Innovative means the advanced and original ideas or methods.

It's believed they lived by the Nile as the yearly flooding meant that the soil was fertile for crops and being close to the river allowed them to use it for drinking water, washing and cleaning. Every year, the river Nile would rise and fall so the Egyptians dug channels and walls to divert flood water towards their fields for farming.

The Pyramids

Ancient Egyptians believed in an afterlife and believed that one's body and possessions would be needed. This meant that great care was taken with bodies after death. A process called mummification meant the bodies could be preserved and were buried in a tomb surrounded by all their worldly possessions.

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Some of these tombs are what we now know as the Pyramids. The more important the person, the bigger their tomb. Hieroglyphics were one of the earliest formal writing systems and were created by the ancient Egyptians. They would be drawn all around the tomb to tell the life story of the dead and also to help guide them to the afterlife.

Mummification is the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh.

Pharaohs

Early Egyptian rulers were first called 'kings' but over time, the name 'pharaoh' began to be used more.

Pharaohs were rulers who were seen as religious leaders and the bridge between the gods and the Egyptians.

One of the most famous ancient Egyptian pharaohs was Tutankhamun (also known as King Tut). In 1922, his tomb was discovered by a group of explorers who couldn't believe how well the body had kept along with the number of treasures inside his tomb.

Many of the 3000 items they found were either made from or covered in gold and were there for Tutankhamun to take with him to the afterlife. The tomb was split into many different rooms with most of them being home to the objects, apart from the burial chamber which just held his **sarcophagus**.

A **sarcophagus** is a stone coffin, decorated with inscriptions and sculptures.

Gods

There were more than 2000 gods in ancient Egypt. Many of them took human form but some were represented with heads of animals. Long ago, the Egyptians believed that there was nothing but chaos and that the gods came to create order and harmony for all.

They believed that life on Earth was just part of the eternal journey so everyone must live a good and harmonious life in order to be guided by the gods through the afterlife. Each god represented an aspect of the Egyptian world. For example, Ra was the god of the sun and Anuket was the god of the river Nile.

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Questions

1. The ancient Egyptians lived...? Tick one.

   - ○ from 5000 BC to 3100 BC
   - ○ from 332 BC to 5000 BC
   - ○ from 5000 BC
   - ○ from 3100 BC to 332 BC

2. What were some of the jobs done by ancient Egyptians? Tick **three**.

   - ○ merchants
   - ○ farmers
   - ○ school teachers
   - ○ scribes

3. Find and copy one word which describes the advanced and original farming techniques used.

   _____

4. Why did the ancient Egyptians live by the river Nile?

   _____

5. What is 'mummification'?

   _____

6. Do you think the pharaohs were important in ancient Egypt? Explain your answer.

   _____

   _____

   _____

7. Why was it important to the ancient Egyptians to live a good and harmonious life?

   _____

   _____

   _____

8. Do you think the Egyptians were interesting people? Explain your answer.

   _____

   _____

   _____

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Answers

1. The ancient Egyptians lived...? Tick one.

   ○ from 5000 BC to 3100 BC
   ○ from 332 BC to 5000 BC
   ○ from 5000 BC
   ✓ **from 3100 BC to 332 BC**

2. What were some of the jobs done by ancient Egyptians? Tick **three**.

   ✓ **merchants**
   ✓ **farmers**
   ○ school teachers
   ✓ **scribes**

3. Find and copy one word which describes the advanced and original farming techniques used.

   innovative

4. Why did the ancient Egyptians live by the river Nile?

   The ancient Egyptians lived by the river Nile as the yearly flooding allowed them to grow grains and crops.

5. What is 'mummification'?

   Mummification is the process of preserving the body after death by drying or treating flesh.

6. Do you think the pharaohs were important in ancient Egypt? Explain your answer.

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the pharaohs were important as they were like kings so ruled over their people and would have had a lot of power and gold. They were also seen as the bridge between the gods and Egyptians so will have been shown a lot of respect.

7. Why was it important to the ancient Egyptians to live a good and harmonious life?

   Pupils' own responses, such as: The ancient Egyptians believed they had to lead a good and harmonious life because life on Earth was just a part of their eternal journey.
   In order to be guided by the gods through the afterlife, the Egyptians had to be good people while living on Earth.

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8. Do you think the Egyptians were interesting people? Explain your answer.

   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the Egyptians were really interesting as they used clever and innovative techniques to help them farm and created one of the earliest writing systems in history. They also had fascinating ideas about the afterlife and gods so were creative and intelligent people.

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