Howard Carter

Howard Carter was a famous **Egyptologist** and **archaeologist**. He is most famous for discovering the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Early Life

Howard Carter was born in London on 9th May 1874. His father was an artist and taught Howard how to paint and draw. When he was young, Howard spent a lot of time with his family in Norfolk. They lived very close to a big mansion which had a large collection of **artefacts** from ancient Egypt. Howard enjoyed looking at the artefacts so much that he decided to become an archaeologist when he grew up.

Discovering Tutankhamun's Tomb

When he had been working as an archaeologist for several years, Howard was employed by a rich man called Lord Carnarvon. Lord Carnarvon wanted Howard to search in the Valley of the Kings. He believed that there were undiscovered tombs of Egyptian pharaohs buried there.

Did You Know...?

For a long time, Howard didn't find anything in the Valley of the Kings. Lord Carnarvon told him that he would stop all funding if Howard didn't find anything within the next year.

Timeline of Events

4th November 1922: Howard's water boy finds a large stone. Howard believes that this stone is the top of some stairs. Howard's team begins to dig.

26th November 1922: Lord Carnarvon arrives in Egypt and Howard makes a small hole in the wall they had found. He can see gold everywhere! He has discovered the **antechamber** of Tutankhamun.

After the Discovery

In the antechamber, Howard noticed a large door. Being careful not to damage any of the objects, Howard worked on opening it. On the 16th February 1923, he opened the door and discovered the famous burial chamber of Tutankhamun. Inside this room, there were even more gold objects, including the golden

visit twinkl.com

sarcophagus of the pharaoh, Tutankhamun. Howard Carter spent the next nine years drawing pictures of the two rooms and all of the objects inside. Afterwards, the objects were moved to a museum in Cairo. Many of the objects can still be seen in the museum today.

When Lord Carnarvon asked Howard Carter what he could see in the tomb, Howard replied, "Wonderful things."

Did You Know...?

The chisel that Howard used to make the first hole in the wall of the antechamber was a 17th birthday present from his grandmother!

Glossary

antechamber: A small room leading to a main room.

archaeologist: A person who studies human history by uncovering sites and looking at artefacts.

artefacts: Objects made by a human being that are usually of historical interest.

Egyptologist: A person who studies the language, history and culture of ancient Egypt.

sarcophagus: A decorated coffin.

visit twinkl.com

Questions

1. Number the events 1-4 to show they order that they happened. The first one has been done for you.

   [ ] Howard Carter discovers the antechamber.
   [ ] Howard Carter's water boy finds a large stone.
   [ ] Howard Carter discovers the burial chamber.
   [1] Howard Carter learns to paint and draw.

2. Which word did Howard Carter use to describe what he could see in the tomb? Tick one.

   ○ excellent
   ○ wonderful
   ○ magnificent
   ○ horrifying

3. What famous object was inside the burial chamber that Howard Carter opened? Tick one.

   ○ Howard Carter's drawings
   ○ a chisel
   ○ a golden goblet
   ○ Tutankhamun's sarcophagus

4. Draw **four** lines to match each person with their action. One has been done for you.

Howard Carter	gave Howard a chisel for his birthday
Lord Carnarvon	opened the door to the burial chamber
Howard's water boy	paid Howard to search for a tomb
Howard's grandmother	discovered a large stone

5. Where can you still see objects from the tomb today?

   _____

6. Fill in the missing words.

   Howard Carter was born in _____ but spent a lot of time with his family in _____.

7. How do you think that Howard Carter felt when he first saw the tomb?

_____

_____

_____

Answers

1. Number the events from 1-4 to show they order that they happened. The first one has been done for you.

   [3] Howard Carter discovers the antechamber.
   [2] Howard Carter's water boy finds a large stone.
   [4] Howard Carter discovers the burial chamber.
   [**1**] Howard Carter learns to paint and draw.

2. Which word did Howard Carter use to describe what he could see in the tomb? Tick one.

   ○ excellent
   ✓ **wonderful**
   ○ magnificent
   ○ horrifying

3. What famous object was inside the burial chamber that Howard Carter opened? Tick one.

   ○ Howard Carter's drawings
   ○ a chisel
   ○ a golden goblet
   ✓ **Tutankhamun's sarcophagus**

4. Draw **four** lines to match each person with their action. One has been done for you.

Howard Carter	gave Howard a chisel for his birthday
Lord Carnarvon	opened the door to the burial chamber
Howard's water boy	paid Howard to search for a tomb
Howard's grandmother	discovered a large stone

5. Where can you still see objects from the tomb today?

   You can still see objects from the tomb in a museum in Cairo.

6. Fill in the missing words.

   Howard Carter was born in **London** but spent a lot of time with his family in **Norfolk**.

7. How do you think that Howard Carter felt when he first saw the tomb?
   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Howard Carter felt excited and relieved because Lord Carnarvon was going to stop funding if he didn't find anything.

Howard Carter

Howard Carter was a British Egyptologist and archaeologist. He became famous after making an incredible discovery in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt.

Early Life

Howard Carter was born in London on 9th May 1874. His father was called Samuel John Carter and he was an artist. He taught Howard how to create accurate paintings and drawings. When he was young, Howard spent a lot of time with his relatives who lived in Norfolk. They lived very close to a grand mansion called Didlington Hall, which contained a large number of ancient Egyptian artefacts. It was here that Howard first developed an interest in ancient Egypt. When he was 17 years old, Howard started to work as an artist and he was paid to create drawings of important Egyptian finds.

Discovering Tutankhamun's Tomb

After working as an archaeologist for several years, Howard was employed by Lord Carnarvon. Lord Carnarvon was a wealthy man who was very interested in the Valley of the Kings, which was a known burial place of important Egyptian pharaohs. Howard and his team discovered very little during the first few years of their work. Because of this, Lord Carnarvon told Howard that he had one year left to find something significant or he would cease all funding.

Luckily, on the 4th November 1922, Howard Carter's water boy stumbled across a large stone in the place they had been excavating. Howard recognised this stone as one that belonged to a set of stairs. He believed that they led to a previously undiscovered tomb. Immediately, Howard called Lord Carnarvon who landed in Egypt on 26th November 1922. The team were now ready to make an incredible discovery.

Using a small chisel that his grandmother had given to him as a present for his 17th birthday, Howard made a small hole in the wall they had discovered. We now know that this wall led to the antechamber of the famous Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun. When Howard looked through the hole in the wall, he could see hundreds of golden objects.

visit twinkl.com

When Lord Carnarvon asked Howard Carter what he could see in the tomb, Howard replied, "Wonderful things."

After the Discovery

After his first discovery, Howard continued to work and, on the 16th February 1923, he opened the sealed door within the antechamber. Through this door, Howard found the magnificent burial chamber of Tutankhamun. Like the antechamber, this room was filled with golden objects that Tutankhamun would need in the afterlife. One of the most notable objects in this room was Tutankhamun's golden sarcophagus. For the next nine years, Howard worked hard to document every one of the thousands of objects buried with Tutankhamun. He drew each object as well as diagrams showing their position within the tomb. When he had finished, most of the objects were moved to a museum in Cairo where many of them remain today.

visit twinkl.com

Questions

1. Draw **four** lines to match each date to the event which happened on it.

Lord Carnarvon arrives in Egypt.	9th May 1874
The water boy discovers a stone step.	4th November 1922
Howard Carter is born.	26th November 1922
The door to the burial chamber is opened.	16th February 1923

2. Which part of Tutankhamun's tomb was discovered **first**? Tick one.

   - ○ the antechamber
   - ○ the golden objects
   - ○ the top of the set of stairs
   - ○ the burial chamber

3. If you wanted to see many of the golden artefacts discovered by Howard Carter, where would you need to go? Tick one.

   - ○ Tutankhamun's tomb
   - ○ the Valley of the Kings
   - ○ a museum in Cairo
   - ○ between West London and Norwich

4. Number the events 1-4 to show the order in which they occurred.

   - ☐ Howard Carter says that he can see wonderful things.
   - ☐ Lord Carnarvon threatens to withdraw funding.
   - ☐ The golden objects are moved to Cairo.
   - ☐ Howard Carter learns how to draw and paint.

5. Look at the paragraph beginning: **After working as an archaeologist...**

   Find and copy one word from this paragraph which means 'stop'.

   _____

6. How long did it take Howard Carter to document all of the objects in Tutankhamun's tomb?

_____

7. Who do you think should be named as discovering Tutankhamun's tomb? Tick one.

- ◯ Howard Carter
- ◯ Howard's water boy
- ◯ both

Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

8. How do you think Lord Carnarvon felt when he arrived in Egypt on 26th November 1922?

_____

_____

_____

Answers

1. Draw **four** lines to match each date to the event which happened on it.

Lord Carnarvon arrives in Egypt.	9th May 1874
The water boy discovers a stone step.	4th November 1922
Howard Carter is born.	26th November 1922
The door to the burial chamber is opened.	16th February 1923

2. Which part of Tutankhamun's tomb was discovered **first?** Tick one.

   - ○ the antechamber
   - ○ the golden objects
   - ✓ **the top of the set of stairs**
   - ○ the burial chamber

3. If you wanted to see many of the golden artefacts discovered by Howard Carter, where would you need to go? Tick one.

   - ○ Tutankhamun's tomb
   - ○ the Valley of the Kings
   - ✓ **a museum in Cairo**
   - ○ between West London and Norwich

4. Number the events 1-4 to show the order in which they occurred.

   - [3] Howard Carter says that he can see wonderful things.
   - [2] Lord Carnarvon threatens to withdraw funding.
   - [4] The golden objects are moved to Cairo.
   - [1] Howard Carter learns how to draw and paint.

5. Look at the paragraph beginning: **After working as an archaeologist...**
   Find and copy one word from this paragraph which means 'stop'.

   cease

6. How long did it take Howard Carter to document all of the objects in Tutankhamun's tomb?

   It took Howard Carter nine years to document all of the objects in Tutankhamun's tomb.

7. Who do you think should be named as discovering Tutankhamun's tomb? Tick one.

   Accept either Howard Carter, Howard's water boy or both as an answer, providing that a full explanation is also given, such as: I think that they both helped to discover the tomb because the water boy discovered the top step but he wouldn't have been there if Howard Carter wasn't excavating.

8. How do you think Lord Carnarvon felt when he arrived in Egypt on 26th November 1922?
   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Lord Carnarvon must have felt really excited because he had been paying Howard Carter to find something and he had finally found something really special.

Howard Carter

Howard Carter was a British Egyptologist and archaeologist who became famous worldwide when he made an incredible discovery in Egypt.

Early Life

Howard Carter was born in Kensington, London on 9th May 1874. His father was called Samuel John Carter and he was an artist. He taught Howard how to create accurate paintings and drawings. As a child, Howard spent a lot of time in Norfolk with his relatives. They lived very close to Didlington Hall, which was a mansion with a sizeable collection of Egyptian artefacts. It was here that Howard first developed an interest in ancient Egypt. When he was 17 years old, Howard got a job creating accurate drawings and diagrams of important Egyptian finds.

Discovering Tutankhamun's Tomb

Several years into his archaeological career, Howard was employed by Lord Carnarvon, who was a wealthy man. He was also interested in the Valley of the Kings. It was a known burial place for many Egyptian Pharaohs. After many years of discovering very little, Lord Carnarvon told Howard that he would cease all funding if he did not discover something significant within the year.

On the 4th November 1922, Howard Carter's water boy stumbled across a stone in the place that Howard and his team had been excavating. Howard recognised this stone as one that belonged to a set of stairs; he believed that the stairs could lead to a previously undiscovered tomb. Immediately, Howard summoned Lord Carnarvon and, on the 26th November 1922, the two of them were ready to see the most famous Egyptian tomb ever discovered.

Using the same chisel that his grandmother had given him as a present for his 17th birthday, Howard made a small hole in the wall they had found. We now know that this wall led to the antechamber of the famous Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun. When Howard looked through the small hole, his eyes were greeted with hundreds of golden objects. Famously, when Lord Carnarvon asked Howard what he could see, he replied, "Wonderful things."

visit twinkl.com

After the Discovery

On the 16th February 1923, Howard Carter opened the sealed door within the antechamber and discovered the burial chamber of Tutankhamun. Like the antechamber, this room was filled with golden objects that Tutankhamun would need in the afterlife. Among these objects was the incredibly ornate sarcophagus of Tutankhamun. News of this amazing find quickly spread across the world. Soon, journalists were travelling from far and wide. They all wanted to catch a glimpse of the tomb, which had remained undiscovered for 3000 years. They also wanted to see the man who had uncovered it. For the next nine years, Howard Carter tirelessly documented each of the thousands of objects buried with Tutankhamun. He drew each object as well as diagrams showing their position within the tomb. After this, they were moved to a museum in Cairo where many of the objects remain today.

visit twinkl.com

Questions

1. Which of these did Howard Carter **not** discover? Tick one.

   ○ Tutankhamun's sarcophagus
   ○ hundreds of golden objects
   ○ the top of the set of stairs
   ○ the burial chamber

2. Number the events 1-4 to show the order in which they occurred.

   ☐ Journalists travel to the tomb.
   ☐ Howard's grandmother gives him a chisel.
   ☐ Howard Carter begins excavating in the Valley of the Kings.
   ☐ Tutankhamun's tomb is opened.

3. Look at the section titled **After the Discovery**.
   Find and copy one word which means 'a quick look'.

   _____

4. Fill in the missing words.

   The burial chamber contained the _____ of Tutankhamun and golden items that he would need in the _____.

5. Why did Lord Carnarvon threaten to stop funding the excavation in the Valley of the Kings?

   _____

   _____

6. **He drew each individual object, as well as diagrams showing their position within the tomb...**
   Why do you think it was important to show the position of everything in the tomb?

   _____

   _____

   _____

7. Do you think that it was fair of Lord Carnarvon to threaten to stop funding if Howard Carter didn't discover anything?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Fully explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

8. If you were one of the first reporters to arrive in Egypt, what question would you ask Howard Carter? Fully explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

Answers

1. Which of these did Howard Carter **not** discover? Tick one.

   ○ Tutankhamun's sarcophagus
   ○ hundreds of golden objects
   ✓ **the top of the set of stairs**
   ○ the burial chamber

2. Number the events 1-4 to show the order in which they occurred.

   [4] Journalists travel to the tomb.
   [1] Howard's grandmother gives him a chisel.
   [2] Howard Carter begins excavating in the Valley of the Kings.
   [3] Tutankhamun's tomb is opened.

3. Look at the section titled **After the Discovery**.
   Find and copy one word which means 'a quick look'.
   glimpse

4. Fill in the missing words.

   The burial chamber contained the **sarcophagus** of Tutankhamun and golden items that he would need in the **afterlife**.

5. Why did Lord Carnarvon threaten to stop funding the excavation in the Valley of the Kings?
   Lord Carnarvon threatened to stop the funding because Howard Carter hadn't discovered anything significant.

6. **He drew each individual object, as well as diagrams showing their position within the tomb...**
   Why do you think it was important to show the position of everything in the tomb?
   Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that it was important to show the position of everything because it is the most famous tomb that has ever been found and archaeologists who can't get to Egypt might be able to learn a lot about ancient Egypt from the diagrams.

7. Do you think that it was fair of Lord Carnarvon to threaten to stop funding if Howard Carter didn't discover anything?
   Accept either yes or no as an answer, providing that a full explanation is also given, such as: Yes, I think that it was fair because he had been paying Howard Carter for a few years already and he hadn't found anything. He gave him another year to find something instead of stopping the funding straight away.

8. If you were one of the first reporters to arrive in Egypt, what question would you ask Howard Carter? Fully explain your answer.
   Pupils' own responses, such as: I would ask him what his favourite object is because then I could focus on writing about that instead of looking through hundreds of different items.