

Ancient Egypt

It was a civilisation in north-east Africa which started about 5,000 years ago and lasted for around 3,000 years.



The River Nile was very important to the Ancient Egyptians. It flooded every year.

Ancient Egyptians:

- lived along or around the river
- used irrigation to grow crops
- travelled along the river to trade
- wrote on papyrus and used hieroglyphics.

Hieroglyphics

- A system of writing using pictures to show sounds and meanings.
- The Rosetta Stone helped archaeologists understand hieroglyphics.



Pharaohs

- Pharaohs ruled the people, like royalty.
- They were considered gods.
- Tutankhamun, Ramesses II, and Cleopatra are well known Pharaohs.
- Enslaved people were at the bottom of society.



This is Tutankhamun's mask.

Tutankhamun's tomb

- The tomb was found in 1922 by Howard Carter.
- The treasures of Tutankhamun have told archaeologists a lot about Ancient Egypt.
- We are still discovering things about Ancient Egypt.

Pyramids

- The most famous pyramids are the Giza pyramids.
- It took 20,000 workers to build them over 20 years.



- Pharaohs built them to house their bodies after they died.

- Pharaohs stopped building them due to tomb robbers.

Discoveries

There were important Ancient Egyptian discoveries to do with maths, medicine, and the calendar.

Mummification

- The bodies of important people were preserved for the afterlife by mummification which took 70 days.
- In the Old Kingdom and Middle Kingdom, the most important mummies were buried in pyramids.
- In the New Kingdom, pharaohs were buried in the Valley of the Kings. Workers who built underground tombs for pharaohs lived at Deir el-Medina.

Old Kingdom

Middle Kingdom

New Kingdom

Word	Definition
afterlife	A belief that there is life after death.
Anubis	Ancient Egyptian god who guided the souls of the dead.
archaeologist	A person who studies human history and prehistory by examining sites and artefacts.
artefact	An object made by a person.
Bastet	Ancient Egyptian goddess of music, dancing, and protection.
calendar	A chart or set of pages showing the dates of the month or year.
civilisation	A society, culture, and particular way of life in a certain area.
dynasty	A line of rulers from the same family.
Egyptology	The study of the language, history, and culture of Ancient Egypt.
enslaved people	People who are owned by someone else and had to work for them without being paid.
farmers	A person who owns or manages a farm.
flail	An old-fashioned tool for threshing grain.
flood	A large amount of water spreading over a place that is usually dry.
hierarchy	A system of organising people by importance.
Hieroglyphics	The writing system used by the Ancient Egyptians, which used pictures instead of letters.
irrigation	Channels to let water flow to help crops grow.
Isis	Ancient Egyptian goddess of motherhood, healing, protection, and children.

Word	Definition
legacy	Something left behind and passed on to others.
monument	A statue, building, or column to remind people of some person or event.
mummification	The process of preparing a body so it does not decay.
Osiris	Ancient Egyptian god of the underworld and judge of the dead.
papyrus	A material from the stem of a water plant, used to make paper.
pharaoh	A ruler in Ancient Egypt, a bit like a king or queen.
preserve	Treat the body so that it does not decay.
priests	Someone who performs religious ceremonies.
pyramid	A stone monument with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet.
Ra	Ancient Egyptian falcon-headed god of the Sun.
sarcophagus	A beautiful coffin used for burials in ancient times.
society	Many people living together in a community.
temple	A monument built to worship the gods.
Thoth	Ancient Egyptian ibis-headed god of knowledge.
tomb	A monument to the memory of a dead person.
trade	Buying, selling, and exchanging goods.
Valley of the Kings	Area where many pharaohs were buried during the New Kingdom.