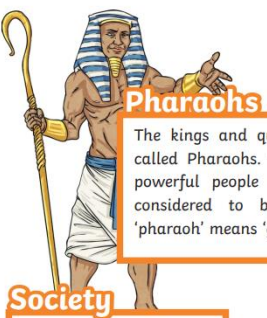
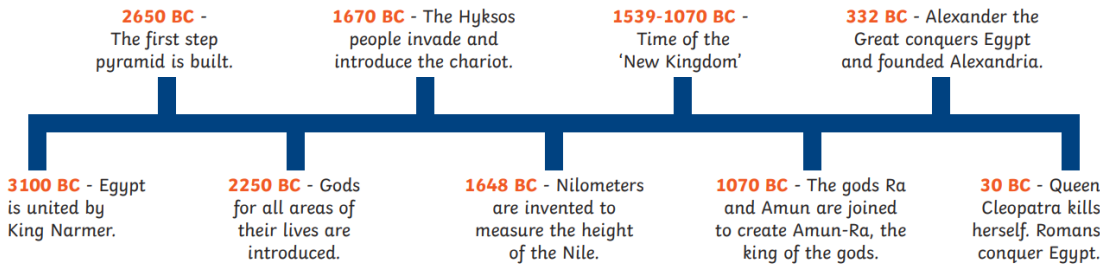




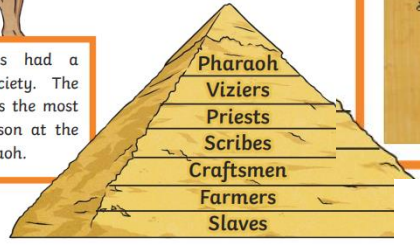
Ancient Egypt was one of the greatest and most powerful civilizations in the history of the world. It lasted for over 3000 years from 3150 BC to 30 BC. The civilization of ancient Egypt was located along the Nile River in northeast Africa.

Ancient Egypt



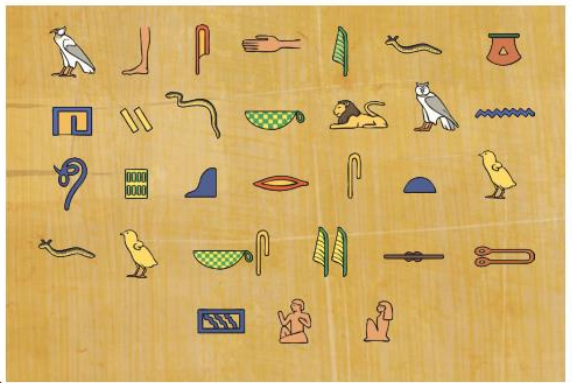
Pharaohs
The kings and queens of Egypt were called Pharaohs. They were the most powerful people in Egypt and were considered to be gods. The word 'pharaoh' means 'great house'.

Society
The Egyptians had a structured society. The diagram shows the most important person at the top - the Pharaoh.



Hieroglyphs

The ancient Egyptians used a form of writing called hieroglyphs. These were letters represented with a picture.



Key vocabulary	Definition
Egyptologist	Egyptologists study all the aspects of ancient Egypt that they can, across periods from about 7,000 BC to the early middle ages
Pyramid.	A group of huge monuments in the Egyptian desert, built as burial vaults for the pharaohs and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World
Scribe	Scribes were people in ancient Egypt (usually men) who learned to read and write.
Pharaoh	pharaohs were both the heads of state and the religious leaders of their people.
Hieroglyphics	A form of pictorial writing used on tombs, sheets of papyrus and wooden boards
Primary evidence	Primary sources include documents or artifacts created by a witness to or participant in an event



Pyramids were great tombs used mainly for Pharaohs.

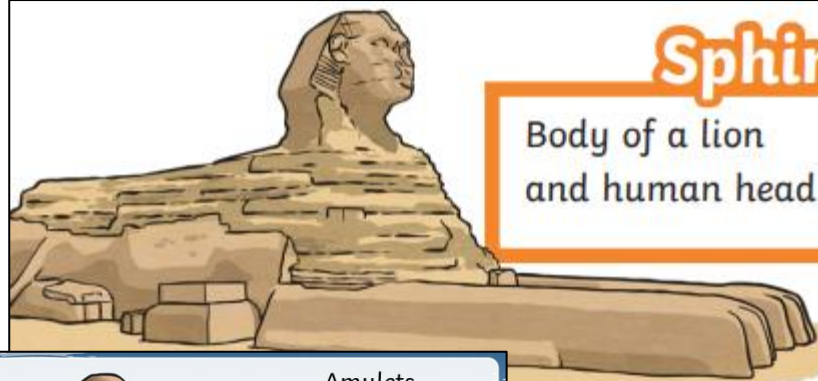
Pyramids



These were built using huge stones, each one weighed tonnes and all moved by men!

It is believed the Egyptians built sphinx statues to guard important areas such as tombs and temples

Sphinx



Body of a lion and human head.

They mummified the Pharaoh before burial.

Why did the Egyptians preserve bodies?

The Egyptians believed that when they died their soul left their bodies. After they were buried their soul would return and together with the body would live forever in the afterlife when the world had ended. Unless their body was preserved, it would be no good in the afterlife.

The afterlife of the Ancient Egyptians was very important to them. They believed that if they acted a certain way then they would be able to travel to the afterlife.

Did all Egyptians preserve bodies?

Not everyone could afford to, it was a very expensive process that took around 70 days to complete.



The Egyptians left only the heart in place, believing it to be the center of a person's being and intelligence.

Amulets



- The **isis knot** or **tyet** would be placed at the neck to protect the body.
- The **heart** amulet was placed over the heart to protect it.
- The **scarab** was placed over the upper abdomen. It was a dung beetle which represented rebirth and the rising and setting of the sun.
- The **Udjat** or **Eye of Horus** was placed on the abdomen, over the cut to remove the organs. It was a symbol of good health that was shaped like the eye of the falcon God Horus.

Whatever problems an ancient Egyptian faced, there would be an amulet to help. The Ankh was a hieroglyph that represented life. When placed on a mummy it was believed to give the gift of eternal life to the dead.

Canopic Jars

The **canopic jars** had four different heads representing the four sons of Horus.

- Hapi**
Baboon headed god. Looked after the lungs.
- Imsety**
Human headed god. Looked after the liver.
- Duamutef**
Jackal headed god. Looked after the stomach.
- Qebehsenuef**
Falcon headed god. Looked after the intestines.



The other organs were preserved separately, with the stomach, liver, lungs, and intestines placed in special boxes or jars today called canopic jars. These were buried with the mummy.

Funeral and Sarcophagus

A funeral was held, and funeral songs sung. A ritual called the 'Opening of the Mouth' was performed so that the dead person would be able to eat, drink and speak in the afterlife.

The final stage was to put the coffins into a sarcophagus (stone coffin) and place it in a tomb with valuable objects, food and drink for the journey to the afterlife.

