



Key Vocabulary

Word	Meaning
Egyptologist	A person who studies Egypt.
Timeline	A graphical representation of a chronological sequence of events.
Artefact	An object of historical importance.
Mummification	Process of preserving a body after death.
Canopic	A jar which preserved the viscera (the organs).
Sarcophagus	A stone coffin.
Embalming	Preserving the deceased by injecting chemicals to avoid decomposition.



Key Events from Ancient Egypt

Early settlers made their home along the **River Nile**.
5500 BC



The first **Pharaoh, King Narmer**, united Lower Egypt and Upper Egypt.
3100 BC



King Tutankhamun ruled for 10 years.
1332 BC

The Romans invaded and Egypt became part of the Roman Empire.
31 BC



Early **hieroglyphic** writing was used.
3500 BC

The Great Sphinx and Giza Pyramids were built.
2550 BC



Cleopatra VII begins her reign as the last Pharaoh.
51 BC



The Pyramids from Ancient Egypt

- Massive structures built as tombs for Pharaohs and their consorts.
- There are over **100 pyramids** in Egypt, but the three most-well known (and largest) are: the **Great Pyramid of Giza** (147m), the **Pyramid of Khafre**, and the **Pyramid of Menkaure**.
- Constructed using blocks of limestone and granite (last an eternity).
- Symbol of the **Pharaoh's power and wealth**, with the intention to protect the Pharaoh's body and possessions in the afterlife.
- Pyramid shape** was chosen for its **symbolic and spiritual significance** as it was believed to be the closest shape to the rays of the sun.

Comparing to Stonehenge

Shape: Stonehenge has rectangular blocks, arranged in a circle.

Materials: Sandstone, sarsen and bluestone.

Purpose: unsure, but could be religious.

Location: Wiltshire, England.





Why was mummification popular?

Religious beliefs: the soul of the body needs to be preserved to live in the afterlife.

Protection of the body: a way to protect the body from decay and disintegration.

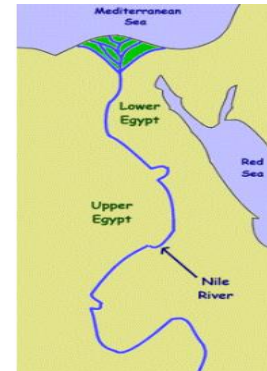
Status and wealth: costly and a time-consuming process, which only the wealthy could afford. It became a status symbol.

Medical practices: used as a way to treat the body and to preserve it for medical study. Removing internal organs and the use of dry substances, such as natron (salt), may have had a preservative effect on bodies.



The River Nile

- The **longest** river in the world.
- Provided **fertile land**, allowing for the rich soil by the Nile to grow great quality crops.
- Provided **building materials** for the Ancient Egyptians. Mud was used, from the riverbanks, to make sundried bricks.
- It was and still is a **major motorway throughout the Empire**. Boats constantly travelled up and down, carrying people and goods.
- Ancient Egypt was divided into two regions: **Upper Egypt** and **Lower Egypt**. Upper Egypt is to the south and the Lower Egypt is to the north (names come from the flow of the Nile).



Common Misconceptions

1. The River Nile only flowed through Egypt.

No, it flowed through 10 different countries.

2. The pyramids were build by slaves only.

Some slaves were used to build pyramids, but it mostly consisted of paid labour workers.

3. Ancient Egypt was only a desert civilisation.

Whilst much of Egypt was on desert, the River Nile allowed other civilisations to develop due to providing water for irrigation.

Extending your Learning

1. Complete this Mummification craft activity: <https://www.imagininghistory.co.uk/post/mummification-craft-activities>
2. Take a virtual tour of the Pyramid of Giza: <https://www.google.com/maps/about/behind-the-scenes/streetview/treks/pyramids-of-giza/>
3. Write your own name in hieroglyphics: <https://www.egyptabout.com/2016/12/hieroglyphics-chart.html>



Knowledge Organiser Revision Schedule

Here is the revision schedule for this half term's knowledge organiser. Please help your child to learn the specified section each week.

Week	Knowledge Organiser Section to Learn
Week 1 – 2.1.23	Key events from the Ancient Egyptian era.
Week 2 – 16.1.23	Pyramids and comparison to Stonehenge
Week 3 – 30.1.23	Key Vocabulary
Week 4 – 20.2.23	Why was mummification popular?
Week 5 – 6.2.23	The River Nile
Week 6 – 20.3.23	The whole K.O.