



# Ancient Egypt (year 4)

## (History)



### Timeline

6000 BCE	5000 BCE	4500 BCE	3500 BCE	3000 BCE	2500 BCE	1500 BCE	1325 BCE	332 BCE	30 BCE
People settle near the River Nile	Farmed wheat, barley and cattle	Use of sails for the first time	First use of hieroglyphics	Buildings of mud brick	Sphinx and Giza Pyramids	Valley of the Kings tombs built	King Tutankhamun buried	Alexander the Great rules	Death of Cleopatra

### Key Vocabulary

canopic jar	Jars with intestines, stomach, lungs and liver - all of which were thought to be needed in the afterlife.
cartouche	An oval containing hieroglyphics with a horizontal line underneath indicating a royal name.
hieroglyphics	A writing system where picture symbols stood for meanings or sounds. It meant 'sacred' carving.
mummy	A body prepared for burial according to ancient Egyptian practice.
sarcophagus	A stone coffin adorned with sculpture or inscription containing a mummy.
scarab	The use of the common scarab beetle was often used as a symbol for rebirth.
tomb	A chamber or vault to protect the dead, the most elaborate built within within pyramids or underground.
papyrus	A type of plant grown in abundance in ancient Egypt and turned into into a paper-like material for writing.
pyramids	Over 130 giant pyramids were created as tombs for pharaohs, mostly built west of the River Nile.
Narmer Palette	An Egyptian ceremonial engraving, a little over two feet (64 cm) tall and shaped like a chevron shield, depicting the First Dynasty king Narmer conquering his enemies and uniting Upper and Lower Egypt.
dynasty	A period of rule when a series of pharaohs all came from the same family.
egyptologists	An archaeologist who focuses on Ancient Egypt. Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's tomb.

### General Knowledge

#### Gods

**Amun** – king of gods (head of a ram).

**Anubis** - god of mummification and priests often wore masks of Anubis during ceremonies (head of a jackal).

**Bast** – goddess of protection and of household entertainment (head of a cat).

**Sekmet** – god of war and battle (head of a lion).

**Horus** – god of the sky (head of a falcon).

**Ra** - god of the sun.

**Pharaoh** - The supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt. Pharaohs were considered to be gods. Preparation for their journey to the afterlife began as soon as they were crowned. The pyramids and tombs of ancient Egypt were built to house the pharaoh after their death, and were filled with treasure. Pharaohs would often come from one dynasty that lasted hundreds of years.

**Afterlife** Ancient Egyptians believed that when they died, they would make a journey to another world where they would lead a new life. They would need all the things they had used when they were alive, so families would put those things in their graves. Egyptians paid vast amounts of money to have their bodies properly preserved. Those who were poor were buried in the sand whilst the rich were buried in a tomb.

### Famous Figures

#### Narmer -

Said to be the first pharaoh of all Egypt, around 3150 BCE. Also known as Warrior Menes.

#### Khufu -

Pharaoh responsible for the building of the Great Pyramid at Giza.

#### Hatshepsut -

First and longest-reigning female pharaoh.

#### Tutankhamun -

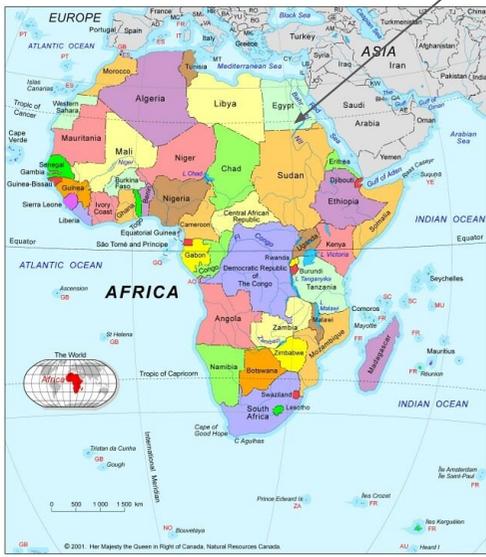
Youngest pharaoh, famed for his burial tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

#### Ramses II -

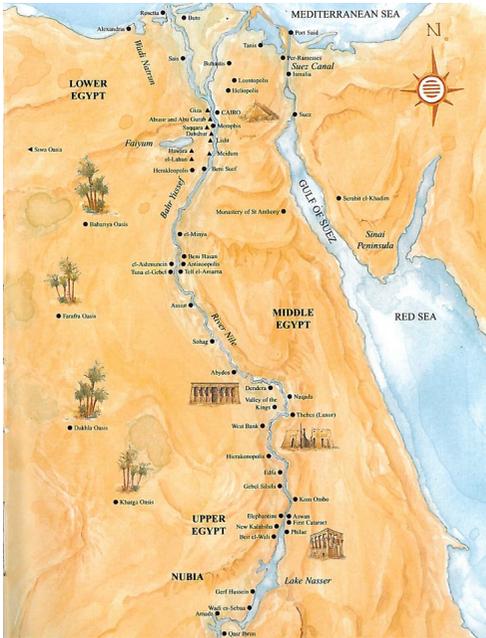
Often known as Ramses the Great, his mummy still rests in Cairo's Egyptian Museum. Built more statues and temples than any other!

#### Cleopatra VII -

Often considered the last pharaoh of Egypt. Kept power by making alliances with famous Romans such as Mark Antony & Julius Caesar.



Egypt is situated in the northeast corner of Africa.



Ancient Egypt had two main divisions of its land, the first two being **Upper and Lower Egypt**. Upper Egypt was little more than a river valley, only about two miles wide at its narrowest and 12 at its widest. Tall cliffs surrounded it on either side. Lower Egypt was the wide delta sitting where the modern city of Cairo is now.

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(Geography)

<u>Physical Features</u>	
River Nile	The Nile is a river that flows across Africa for over 4,000 miles and finally meets the Mediterranean Sea at the <b>Nile River</b> delta. The Nile provided water for the ancient Egyptians, and the yearly floods fertilized the soil so that their crops grew well.
Western Desert	The Western Desert is mostly rocky desert, though an area of sandy desert, known as the Great Sand Sea, The desert covers an area which is two-thirds of the land area of the country.
Eastern Desert	The <b>Eastern Desert</b> (Ancient Egyptian:"Ant") is the part of the <b>Sahara desert</b> that is located east of the Nile river, between the river and the Red Sea.
Sinai Peninsula	Egypt's Sinai Peninsula is a sparsely populated desert region between the Red Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.
<u>Human Features</u>	
The Great Pyramid of Giza	The Great Pyramid of Giza is the largest of all the Egyptian pyramids and is one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.
The Sphinx	A sphinx is a mythical creature with the head of a human and the body of a lion.
Valley of the Kings	The Valley of the Kings contains the tombs, or graves, of dozens of the royal rulers of ancient Egypt.
Temple of Luxor (Thebes)	Luxor Temple is an Ancient Egyptian temple, located in modern-day Luxor, which was known as Thebes at the time. The temple was dedicated to the god Amun, his wife Mut, and their son Chons.



<u>Key Vocabulary</u>	
drought	very low rainfall leading to water shortages.
valley	A valley is a long depression, or ditch, in Earth's surface. It usually lies between ranges of hills or mountains.
arable farming	Arable farming involves growing crops such as wheat and barley rather than keeping animals or growing fruit and vegetables.
irrigation	Using the Nile, Egyptians would use annual flooding to channel water to dry areas to helping crops grow.
human feature	The structures that have been built or made by humans. They are not natural features.
physical feature	The natural environment of an area.
fertile land	Land capable of being ploughed and used to grow crops.
shaduf	Hand-operated device for lifting water, invented in ancient times and still used in Egypt to irrigate land.
desert	A barren area where little precipitation occurs and, consequently, living conditions are hostile for plant and animal life.
natural resources	A natural resource is something that is found in nature and can be used by people. Earth's natural resources include light, air, water, plants, animals, soil, stone, minerals, and fossil fuels.
Akhet Peret Shemu	<p>Flooding season Growing season Harvesting season</p> <p>The cycle of seasons that made up the farming year.</p>

The Ancient Egyptians thought of Egypt as being divided into the 'black land' and the 'red land'. The **black land** was the fertile lands on the bank of the Nile. The ancient Egyptians used this land for growing their crops. This was the only land in ancient Egypt that could be farmed because a layer of black rich silt was deposited their every year after the Nile was flooded. The **red land** was the barren desert that protected Egypt on two sides. These deserts separated ancient Egypt from neighbouring countries and invading armies.