



Who were the Ancient Egyptians?

The Ancient Egyptians were one of the most advanced civilizations. Lasting from 3100BC–30BC before they were conquered by the Romans.

They invented their own way of writing called hieroglyphics. They also created the earliest paper-like material using the papyrus plant.

Why was the River Nile important?

The Egyptians followed a calendar that was influenced by the River Nile.

The calendar followed three seasons: Akhet, the season of flood, Peret, the season of growth and Shemu, the season of harvest. During Akhet, when the flood disappeared, it would leave behind a rich, black soil. The soil was fertile, and the Egyptians would plant all their seeds in this area.

Without the River Nile, the Egyptians would not have been able to survive as Egypt would all be desert.

What did the Ancient Egyptians believe in?

The Ancient Egyptians believed in over 2000 gods and goddesses. They built many temples and statues for them.

Each god or goddess would have an area of expertise which would help the Egyptian people through their lives. They would often be linked to a state or town. Horus, god of vengeance, would often be shown as a falcon.

Gods like Osiris, god of the underworld, was important and one of the most worshipped.

Who ruled Egypt?

Ancient Egyptian society was ruled by the pharaoh. The pharaoh created the laws and made sure Egypt was at peace.

Although they were at the bottom of the hierarchy, Farmers and slaves were important members of society as they ploughed the land and gathered crops. They were also important in building homes for the Egyptians.

Significant People and Places			
Egypt	The River Nile	Valley of the Kings	Pyramids of Giza
Egypt is located in northeastern Africa. It once was split into Lower and Upper Egypt until it was united by the first pharaoh. Its landscape is 90 per cent desert. Pharaohs ruled ancient Egypt for more than 3000 years.	The world's longest river. It creates fertile land across the desert in Egypt. Without the Nile and its flood, the Ancient Egyptians would not have been able to survive. It provided food and other vital materials for the Egyptians.	The Valley of the Kings is located near Luxor on the west bank of the Nile. It became the burial site of Kings and Queens during the New Kingdom. This was so that tombs could be well hidden deep within the rock.	The Giza pyramids were built by 3 different pharaohs. The Great Pyramid is the largest of the 3 at 481 feet high. It is estimated that it took 10,000 workers 30 years to build a pyramid.

Where is Egypt?

Egypt is located in the north-eastern corner of Africa.



Glossary		
1	Egyptian	The people of Egypt.
2	Ancient	Something in the very distant past and no longer in existence.
3	Civilization	A society, culture and particular way of life in a certain area.
4	Fertile	Soil or land that is good for growing.
5	Irrigation	The supply of water to land or crops to help growth. Usually this means making channels.
6	Papyrus	A material prepared in ancient Egypt from the stem of a water plant to make paper and rope.
7	Trade	Buy and sell goods or services.
8	Pharaoh	A ruler in ancient Egypt.
9	Reign	Ruling as a king or queen.
10	God/Goddess	A superhuman being or spirit who is worshipped.
11	Afterlife	A belief in some religions that there is life after death.
12	Mummification	Preparing a body so it does not decay.
13	Embalmer	A person whose job it is to preserve the body using chemicals.
14	Amulet	An ornament or small piece of jewellery thought to give protection against evil, danger, or disease.
15	Sarcophagus	A stone coffin usually decorated with images or writing.
16	Hieroglyphics	The formal writing system used by the Ancient Egyptians. Each character or symbol would stand for a word or part of a word.
17	Tomb	A monument to the memory of a dead person.
18	Pyramid	A monumental structure with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet in a point at the top, especially one built of stone as a royal tomb in ancient Egypt.
19	Archeologist	A person who studies human history and prehistory by examining sites and artefacts.
20	Egyptology	The study of the language, history and culture of ancient Egypt.

Significant People and Places			
Tutankhamun	Cleopatra	Ramesses II	Howard Carter
Tutankhamun was one of the youngest pharaohs aged nine years old. He died aged just 19. He is known primarily for his tomb which was discovered untouched in 1922 in the Valley of the Kings.	Cleopatra was the last pharaoh of Egypt. Her 10 year old brother became pharaoh and she co-ruled with him until he grew greedy for more power. She was exiled and returned with the help of the Romans. Cleopatra ruled Egypt from 51 BC – 30 BC.	Ramesses II is known as the Great Pharaoh as he built more statues and temples than any other pharaoh. Some of the famous temples he built are Karnak and Abu Simbel.	In 1922, Howard Carter made one the greatest archeological discoveries of the 20th century. He discovered the hidden tomb of Tutankhamun, the 'boy king'. The tomb was untouched and held many treasures that are still in museums today.