

ANCIENT EGYPT GUIDING QUESTIONS

LESSON 1: THE NILE



How was Egypt geographically isolated from other cultures and protected from invaders?

N- Delta

W & E – Desert

S – Cataracts

1. How does geography influence the way people live?

For the Egyptians, the Nile River led to the creation of surplus. People were free to specialize in areas other than farming. The Nile was then used as a method of travel for the purpose of trade.

2. Why was the Nile River important to Ancient Egyptians?

Water for drinking, livestock, and crops

Trade and Travel

Cataracts kept out invaders

Marshy delta kept out enemies

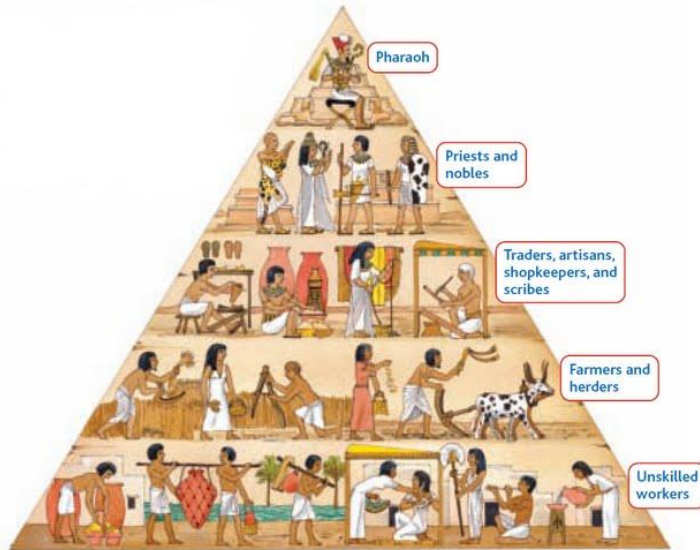
3. How did the Ancient Egyptians depend on the Nile to grow crops?

Irrigation! They also depended on the silt from floods to create fertile soil.

LESSON 2: LIFE IN ANCIENT EGYPT - What makes culture unique?

1. Government
 - a. Monarchy/Theocracy
 - b. Pharaoh – Title of the King of Egypt meaning “great house”
 - c. Divine Right – Believing that the right to rule comes directly from the will of god(s).
2. Economy – Traditional/Command
3. Religion - Polytheistic
4. Architecture – pyramids were great tombs
5. Social Groups

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LESSON 3: EGYPT'S EMPIRE

NOTABLE PHAROAHs:

1. **Hatshepsut** – Women Pharaoh who focused on trade to make Egypt wealthier
2. **Amenhotep IV** – He tried to change Egypt's religion from polytheistic to monotheistic. This was not well received. Under his weak rule, Egypt lost a lot of territory to invaders.
3. **Tutankhamen – (King Tut)** This ten year old restored the worship of many deities. He died in his teens and is famous because of the discovery of riches at his tomb.
4. **Ramses II** – During his 66 year reign he restored Egypt's greatness. (more territory through battles, increased trade, and architecture)

Why do civilizations rise and fall?

Rise: Specialization, Abundance of Natural Resources, Expansion through conquest, Trade

Fall: Military Invasion, Revolution, Economic Trouble

Why did Egypt decline?

The Pharaohs fought costly wars. They were attacked by multiple invaders.