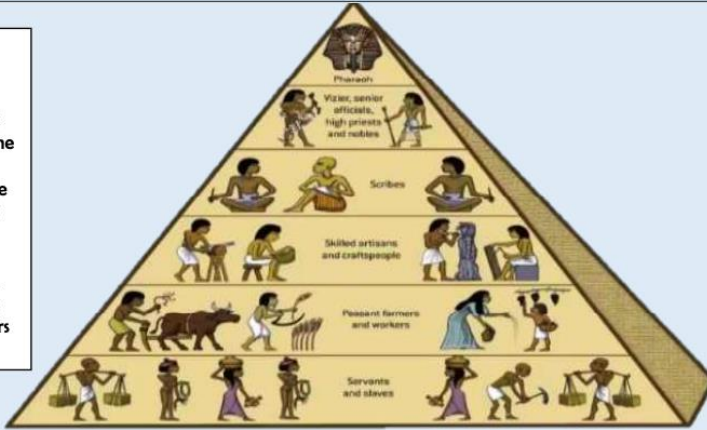




Diagram – Social structure of Ancient Egypt

**Ancient Egypt Social Class Structure**

The pharaoh and those that were linked to religion were the most powerful in society. Pharaohs were believed to be gods in human form, and so they had power over everything. Skilled workers made up the middle classes. Those at the bottom had no power, and worked long hours for little return.



Places, Objects, and Occupations in Ancient Egypt

<b>The Great Pyramid of Giza</b>		The Great Pyramid of Giza is the oldest and largest of the Great Pyramids complex near Cairo. It is the oldest of the 7 wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one still intact. It was built for pharaoh Khufu.	<b>Where?</b> Cairo, northern Egypt	<b>Key Fact:</b> The Great Pyramid is 146 metres tall.
<b>Valley of the Kings</b>		The Valley of the Kings is a place where pharaohs were buried for nearly 500 years, between 16 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> Century BC. Tombs were cut out of the rock. Tutankhamun's famous tomb is located in the valley.	<b>Where?</b> Banks of the River Nile, Luxor, southern Egypt	<b>Key Fact:</b> The tombs were stocked with goods that the pharaoh would need in the next world.
<b>The Great Sphinx</b>		The Great Sphinx is a large limestone sculpture of a sphinx: a mythical creature with the body of a lion and the head of a human. At some point in the past, the nose has been removed. It is one of the oldest monuments in existence.	<b>Where?</b> Cairo, northern Egypt	<b>Key Fact:</b> The Great Sphinx is 73 metres long from head to tail!
<b>The River Nile</b>		The River Nile is the life source upon which life in Ancient Egypt flourished. It created (and still creates) banks of fertile soil for the Egyptians to live and farm on. In total it is 4,160 miles long!	<b>Where?</b> North to south across Egypt (and beyond!)	<b>Key Fact:</b> The Nile is often considered the longest river in the world.
<b>Ancient City of Thebes</b>		Thebes was an Ancient Egyptian city that was the capital during the Middle Kingdom and New Kingdom. Its ruins lie within what is now the city of Luxor.	<b>Where?</b> Luxor, southern Egypt	<b>Key Fact:</b> It is often called the 'world's greatest open air museum.'
<b>Mummies</b>		Egyptian believed that their bodies would be needed for the afterlife. So, the rich paid for their bodies to be mummified: purified, preserved & wrapped in linen.	<b>How?</b> Salts were used to dry out the body.	<b>Key Fact:</b> It could take up to 70 days to mummify a body!
<b>Clothes</b>		As Egypt is a hot country, people wore lightweight linen clothes to keep them cool. Until the age of six, most children would not wear any clothes.	<b>How?</b> Linen is made from the flax plant.	<b>Key Fact:</b> Egyptians wore jewels & make-up to please the gods.
<b>Farming</b>		The pharaoh made peasants farm on the fertile lands. The people of Egypt were able to grow things like wheat, barley, fruit, vegetables, figs and melons.	<b>How?</b> Fertile Nile soil was ideal for farming.	<b>Key Fact:</b> Every June, farming stopped as the Nile flooded.
<b>Sports</b>		The Ancient Egyptians enjoyed many sports. Most were designed to prepare young men for battle, for example wrestling, boxing, chariot racing and archery.	<b>How?</b> Egyptians invented rules for many sports.	<b>Key Fact:</b> Many sports they played are still played today!
<b>Festivals</b>		Throughout the year the Egyptians held various festivals. Many of these were in honour of the gods, and there would be both offerings and celebrations.	<b>How?</b> Some took place according to the moon.	<b>Key Fact:</b> The most well-known festival was the Opet Festival.
<b>Hunting</b>		The Egyptians hunted for both food and entertainment. This was normally an activity for the rich, however the poor also enjoyed hunting when there was time.	<b>How?</b> They used spears, arrows and sticks.	<b>Key Fact:</b> Even dangerous animals like lions were hunted.
<b>Hieroglyphics</b>		Hieroglyphics were pictures that Ancient Egyptians used to represent objects, actions, sounds, and ideas. In total, there were more than 700 different hieroglyphics. Some of the pictures stood for whole words.	<b>How?</b> Plants were crushed to make ink.	<b>Key Fact:</b> Hieroglyphics were often carved onto the walls of tombs.

**Ancient Egyptian Pharaohs**

 <b>Tutankhamun</b> Tutankhamun is often known as 'The Boy King', as he ruled from when he was 9 years old, and died when he was just 18 (between 1332 and 1323BC). His golden coffin was buried in the Valley of Kings, and was surrounded by around 5,000 priceless treasures. His tomb is one of the few that was found with everything still in it (by Howard Carter in 1922), meaning he has become possibly the most famous pharaoh of all.	 <b>Ramesses II</b> Ramesses II is often considered as the greatest, most powerful Egyptian pharaoh of all – later Egyptians often called him 'The Great Ancestor.' He led the Egyptians into many battles (which were almost always won), and constructed many temples and buildings. His queen, Nefertari, was famed for her beauty. Ramesses II lived until the age of 92, which was an exceptionally old age back in Ancient Egyptian times.
 <b>Menes</b> Menes is believed by many to have been the first pharaoh of Ancient Egypt (between 3407 and 3346 BC) – it is said that he did so by bringing upper Egypt and lower Egypt together for the first time. He is thought to have even worn both crowns: the white crown of lower Egypt and the red crown of upper Egypt. He built the city of Memphis and made it the capital. He may have been killed by a hippopotamus.	 <b>Cleopatra</b> Cleopatra was the last pharaoh of Ancient Egypt, living between 69 BC and 30 BC. After her father's death, the throne was left to 18 year old Cleopatra and her 10 year old brother, Ptolemy, and the two were married. She quickly became the main ruler. It is believed that then, as ruler, she had all three of her siblings killed. She became a close ally of Julius Caesar of Rome, and had his baby. It is said that she could speak 7 languages.

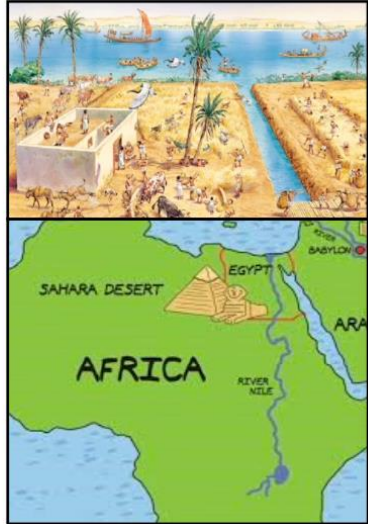
**Egyptian Gods**

The ancient Egyptians worshipped many gods and goddesses (there were around 2000 in total!) Some of these looked very much like humans, whereas others were part human and part animal. Animals were chosen to represent the powers of the god. Ra was possibly the most important god. He was deemed to be the god of the sun and the lord of all of the other gods. He was often presented as having the head of a hawk. Another important god was Anubis, who was the god of the dead. Jackals were often seen in cemeteries, as it was believed that they were watching over the dead. So, Anubis was often shown with the head of a dog.

**Ancient Egypt Timeline**

6000 BC – People began to settle in the Nile valley	5000 BC – Egyptians farmed sheep and cattle, and grew wheat and barley	3500 BC – Craftsman begin to create wall paintings using hieroglyphic symbols	3000 BC – Walled towns and villages begin to be built, made of mud brick	2500 BC – The Great Sphinx and the Great Pyramid are built at Giza.	1550 BC – Many of the royal tombs are built in the Valley of Kings.	1325 BC – King Tutankhamun was buried in the Valley of Kings	30 BC – Queen Cleopatra died, signalling the end of Ancient Egypt as it is normally known
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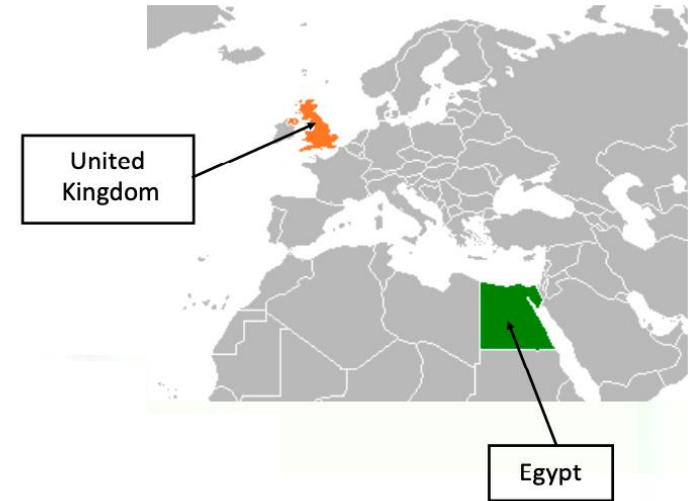
Vocabulary	
Archaeologist	People who discover and study artefacts from the past
Artefacts	Old objects that still exist from the past
Cartouche	An oval shape in which the names of kings and queens were often written in <i>hieroglyphics</i> to show that they were special
Hieroglyphics	A system of writing that used pictures and symbols (hieroglyphs) instead of letters
Irrigation	A system of canals or channels Egyptians dug to supply water to grow crops over a larger area than the water would reach normally
Mummification	A method to preserve a dead body
Pharaoh	A ruler of Ancient Egypt
Silt	Fine particles of soil, clay or sand carried and left by water
Tomb	A large vault, typically underground, for burying the dead



### River Nile

The River Nile was essential to life in ancient Egypt. Every year it flooded, leaving behind a black **silt** that enriched the soil for growing crops. The river was also used to **irrigate** fields in other areas.

Most people lived along and around the Nile. The river was used for water, fishing, and trade. Mud from the river was used for bricks and papyrus plants were used to make paper.



Key Questions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who were the ancient Egyptians?</li> <li>What was life like in ancient Egypt?</li> <li>What legacy did ancient Egypt leave behind?</li> </ul>



### Inspirational individual

Levison Wood is an explorer who walked the length of the River Nile.