

# Ancient Egypt (Year 5)

## Writing

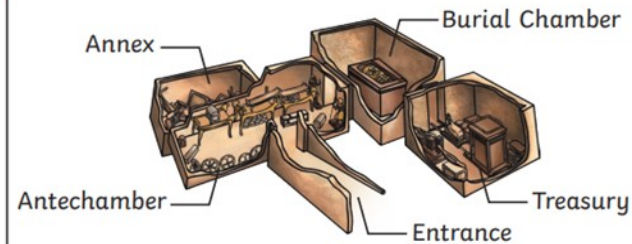
Hieroglyphs were written by scribes, who had to go to a special school to learn how to write. Almost all scribes were men, although there is some evidence of female doctors being able to read hieroglyphs in medical texts.

Hieroglyphs were used for religious texts and inscriptions on statues and tombs. They were also used for counting crops and animals so that the right taxes could be taken.

The Rosetta Stone, discovered in 1799, was written in hieroglyphs and two other languages, including ancient Greek, which linguists (language experts) could still read.

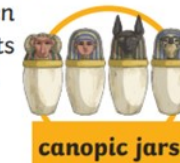
Linguists translated the hieroglyphs by comparing the languages. It took 20 years to translate all the text into modern language.

## Tutankhamun's Tomb



## Embalming and Mummification

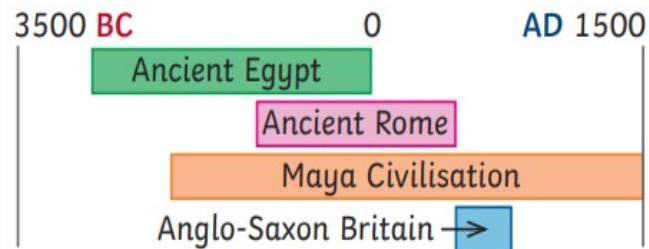
1. Wash the body.
2. Pull out the brain through the nostrils with a hook and fill the skull with sawdust.
3. Remove all internal organs except the heart. Put them into canopic jars.
4. Cover the body in natron salt and leave it to dry for 40 days.
5. Remove the natron salt and pack the body with straw, dried grass or linen.
6. Apply makeup and fake eyes.
7. Wrap the body in linen fabric, adding amulets and a Book of the Dead.
8. Place the mummy in a sarcophagus (decorated coffin).



## Tutankhamun Facts

- Born: around 1342 BC
- Died: around 1323 BC
- Pharaoh from approx. 1333 BC to 1323 BC
- Known as the 'boy king' as he became pharaoh aged only 9
- Tomb discovered by Howard Carter and his team in the Valley of the Kings in 1922
- Tomb contained over 3000 treasures
- Historians believe Tutankhamun died suddenly as the tomb was finished hastily.

## Timeline



## Mummification

When they died, pharaohs and important or wealthy people in ancient Egypt were mummified. Their organs, with the exception of the heart, were removed. Their body would then be dried in natron salt and wrapped in linen fabric with amulets and a Book of the Dead to take with them in the next life. The mummy would then be put in a sarcophagus (decorated coffin) and placed in a tomb. Ordinary Egyptians were simply buried in the desert.

## Cartouche

An oval shape in which the names of kings and queens were often written in hieroglyphics to place on their tombs.

## Anubis

God of mummification. Weighed the hearts of the dead against Ma'at's feather. If your heart was lighter, you would live forever.

## Pharaoh

A ruler of Ancient Egypt