

Ancient Egypt: Social Studies / History Assessment

Learning objective: To assess knowledge and understanding of Ancient Egyptian civilisation, including the significance of the River Nile, daily life, and the development of the afterlife.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Remember to use full sentences for extended responses.

Ellie the elephant has been studying the wonders of the Nile. She explains that without the annual flooding, the land would remain a barren desert. The Ancient Egyptians relied on the river's cycle to grow their crops, build their cities, and trade their goods across the region. Their society was structured around the power of the Pharaoh and a belief in a journey beyond this life.

Word bank: Pharaoh · Hieroglyphics · Silt · Sarcophagus · Irrigation · Afterlife · Papyrus · Mummification

1. Name two ways the River Nile was essential for the survival of the Ancient Egyptians. (2 marks)

2. Explain why the process of mummification was so important to the Ancient Egyptian belief system. (3 marks)

3. What were hieroglyphics, and what material did the Egyptians use to write on them? (2 marks)

4. Describe the role of a Pharaoh in Ancient Egyptian society. How much power did they hold? (3 marks)

5. Compare and contrast the life of a wealthy Egyptian merchant with the life of a typical farmer. Mention at least two differences. (4 marks)

6. Justify why the discovery of the Rosetta Stone was considered a 'turning point' for historians studying Egypt. (3 marks)

7. Extended Writing: Imagine you are an Ancient Egyptian scribe. Write a diary entry describing a day in the life near the Nile. Include details about your work, the environment, and your daily duties. (5 marks) (5 marks)

8. What might happen to the civilisation if the Nile had stopped flooding for ten years? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw and label a simple diagram showing how the Ancient Egyptians used an '<bos>' (shaduf) to move water from the river to their crops.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Imagine you are an archaeologist who has just discovered a hidden tomb. Write a short paragraph explaining the ethical responsibilities of removing artefacts from their original location versus preserving them for the public in a museum.