

Key vocab	Meaning
Afterlife	a life that some people believe begins when you die, for example a life in heaven or as another person or animal
Ancient	belonging to the distant past, especially to the period in history before the end of the Roman Empire (AD 410)
Fertile	rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants
Hieroglyphics	symbols in the form of pictures which are used in some writing systems, for example those of ancient Egypt.
Hierarchy	a system of organising people into different ranks or levels of importance, for example in society
Mummification	If a dead body is mummified, it is preserved, for example by rubbing it in special oils and wrapping in a cloth
Pharaoh	An ancient Egyptian king
Polytheists	The worship of or belief in more than one God
Preserve	making sure that something remains as it is, and does not change or end
Tombs	a large grave that is above ground

# Ancient Egypt

Pharaohs were the kings of Ancient Egypt. They ruled over the land, collected taxes from the people, enforced the law and led the Egyptian army against invaders. Tutankhamun, or King Tut as he is also known, was the last of his dynasty of pharaohs.

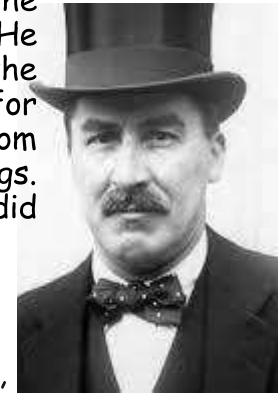
He ruled as a boy only for a short time. He is most famous because his tomb was discovered almost intact and full of treasures in 1922 By Howard Carter.

Tutankhamun inherited the throne around age 9 and became Pharaoh in around 1332 BC. Because he was so young, he had powerful advisers around him to help him rule Egypt. He was a well liked leader and reversed some of his Fathers (the previous king) unfair decisions. Tutankhamun reigned for roughly 10 years. He died around the age of 18, possibly from malaria, and was buried in a tomb in the Valley of the Kings. Tutankhamun married his half-sister but their children did not survive.

In 1907 it was declared that there was nothing left to find at the Valley of the Kings but in 1922 the Egyptologist Howard Carter discovered the tomb. On the 17th February, 1923, the seal to the tomb was broken and a living human stepped inside for the first time in 3,200 years.



The tomb was filled with 5398 items! including a solid gold coffin, throne, trumpets and a chariot. It took Howard Carter ten years to catalogue the finds from the tomb. Parts of Tutankhamun's chest with a beaded collar were stolen after the discovery, along with his skull cap!



**Enquiry qu**  
What were  
contributio  
achieveme  
Ancient E

- The Nile was important... provided water for... soil - this means that... the banks of the Nile... a prime location. The... first civilisations to... systems.
- The Nile also provide... pots, opportunities f... reeds and a key mea...
- We know about an... cause of evidence su... the artefacts that w... methods of commun... use of hieroglyphics...
- Egyptian society wa... this means that som... were deemed more... others. Each group h... play in Egyptian soci...
- Mummification was... preserving a body - t... important to the Egy... believed this would p... their journey into th...
- The bodies of import... pharaohs, were plac... pyramids, which wer...
- Religion was very im... Egypt. They were po... believed in different... goddesses that were... different parts of the... called deities.

## Why did they build the pyramids?

The pyramids were built as burial places and monuments to the Pharaohs. As part of their religion, the Egyptians believed that the Pharaoh needed certain things to succeed in the afterlife. Deep inside the pyramid the Pharaoh would be buried with all sorts of items and treasure that he may need to survive in the afterlife.



## What were Ancient Egyptian houses like?

They were built from mud bricks with floors made from earth. Seats and ovens were built into the house. Food was cooked in stone ovens using a fire. Food was stored in cool places below ground level.

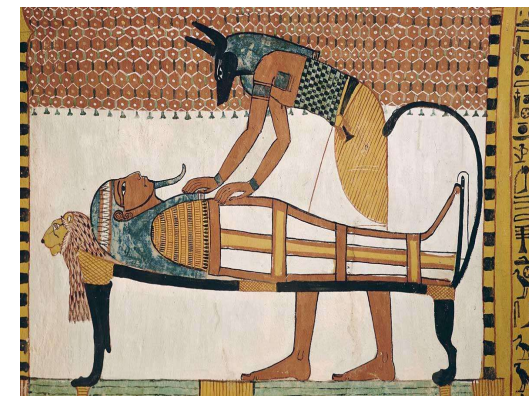
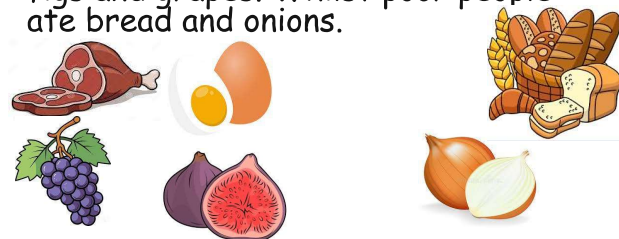


## What was daily life like?

There were many jobs such as:

- Bakers
- Scribes (writers)
- Priests
- Doctors
- Craftspeople
- Merchants (people who sell things)
- Many children had jobs or learned a trade..

Rich people ate a diet of meat, eggs, figs and grapes. Whilst poor people ate bread and onions.



## What did they believe about the after?

The ancient Egyptians believed that when they died their spiritual body would continue to exist in an afterlife very similar to their living world. However, entry into this afterlife was not guaranteed. The dead had to negotiate a dangerous underworld journey and face the final judgment before they were granted access. If successful, they were required to provide eternal sustenance for their spirit. These things could be achieved if proper preparations were made during a person's lifetime.

## How advanced were they?

The ancient Egyptians used their natural resources to their advantage. They had elaborate irrigation systems to bring water to their fields. They built canals to transport water. They also built monumental structures like the Great Pyramids and the Great Sphinx.

The ancient Egyptians were advanced for their time in mathematics and astronomy. They measured time and had a writing system. They were skilled in medicine and even found ways to deal with such as mouldy bread. They even found ways to deal with wounds. A special ointment was created from leeches to protect their skin.

