

EGYPT

Vocabulary



Vocabulary – Day 1

- 12 Provinces:
 - Daylight Hours
- Ahmose:
 - A pharaoh of ancient Egypt and the founder of the Eighteenth dynasty. He was a member of the Theban royal house, the son of pharaoh Seqenenre Tao and brother of the last pharaoh of the Seventeenth dynasty, King Kamose
- Apophis:
 - Huge serpent who tries to defeat Ra the sun god
- **Bennu Bird:**
 - A mythical bird born from fire (a phoenix)

Vocabulary – Day 2



- **Benben Stone:**

- A sacred stone, in the shape of an obelisk, symbolizing the primeval mound where the rays of the rising sun first touched the earth

- **Cataract:**

- Fierce, swift rapids

- **Chaff:**

- Dust made from the outer husks of grain, produced by threshing

- **Cubit:**

- The length of an arm from elbow to fingertips used as a measurement in the ancient world

Vocabulary – Day 3



- **Delta:**
 - The flat, fan-shaped land made of silt deposited at the mouth of a river
- **Deshret:**
 - The Red Land, the desert surrounding the Nile
- **Drought:**
 - A period of dryness occurring during March through May, when crops could be harvested
- **Economy:**
 - The way people manage money and resources for the production of goods and services

Vocabulary – Day 4



- **Emergence:**
 - Land emerges from the Nile floodwaters covering it (approximately October through February)
- **Empire:**
 - A group of lands and peoples ruled by one government
- **Expedition:**
 - A group of people who go on a trip for a specific reason
- **Faiyum:**
 - (in ancient Egyptian she-resy) an oasis area of a lake connected to the Nile by a river arm, the Bahr Yusuf in the 20th nome of Upper Egypt. The capital of the nome was, appropriately, Crocodilopolis

Vocabulary – Day 5



- **Field of Reeds:**

- The ancient Egyptians' name for their place of eternal afterlife

- **Geb:**

- The earth, son of Shu and Tefnut, brother and husband of Nut

- **Hatshepsut:**

- The fifth pharaoh of the Eighteenth dynasty of Egypt. Hatshepsut came to the throne of Egypt in 1478 BC. Officially, she ruled jointly with Thutmose III who had ascended to the throne as a child one year earlier

- **Hieroglyphics:**

- The ancient Egyptian system of writing that used symbols to stand for objects, ideas, or sounds

Vocabulary – Day 6



- Horus:
 - Son of Isis and Osiris
- **Inundation:**
 - Time of the flood (approximately June through September)
- **Irrigation:**
 - The watering of dry land by means of canals or pipes
- **Isis:**
 - Daughter of Geb and Nut, sister and wife of Osiris

Vocabulary – Day 7



- **Kemet:**
 - The Black Land, the fertile strip of land along the Nile
- **Khufu:**
 - Originally Khnum-Khufu, is the birth name of a Fourth Dynasty ancient Egyptian pharaoh, who ruled in the first half of the Old Kingdom period
- **Kite:**
 - A hawk with long, narrow wings, a deeply forked tail and with feet adapted for grabbing insects and small reptiles for prey. Isis is often shown with kite wings on her headdress, or instead of her human arms to symbolize her protective magic
- **Kush:**
 - Controlled rich trade routes to other African Kingdoms. Traded ebony, leopard skins, and elephant ivory

Vocabulary – Day 8



- **Land of the Inundation:**
 - Ancient Egypt
- **Lower Egypt:**
 - The northernmost region of Egypt: the fertile Nile Delta, between Upper Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea — from El-Aiyat, south of modern-day Cairo, and Zawyet Dahshur
- **Maat:**
 - The goddess of law, order, and truth, whose characteristics became an important ethical concept combining truth, justice, order, and righteousness
- **Memphis:**
 - The ancient capital of Aneb-Hetch, the first nome of Lower Egypt. Its ruins are located near the town of Mit Rahina, 20 km south of Cairo. According to legend related by Manetho, the city was founded by the pharaoh Menes

Vocabulary – Day 8

- **Menat:**
 - A broad necklace with a counterpoise hanging down behind
- **Menes:**
 - An ancient Egyptian pharaoh of the early dynastic period, credited by classical tradition with having united Upper and Lower Egypt, and as the founder of the first dynasty
- **Must:**
 - The crushed juice of grapes before and during fermentation
- **Nekhbet:**
 - Goddess whose representation of a vulture was worn on the headdress of a deity or pharaoh as a symbol of supreme power in upper Egypt

Vocabulary – Day 9



- Nephthys:
 - Daughter of Geb and But, sister of Isis and Osiris
- Nile River:
 - A major north-flowing river in northeastern Africa, generally regarded as the longest river in the world. It is 6,853 km long.
- Nilometer:
 - A gauge, often cut in stone or stone steps a cubit in height as at Elephantine, used to predict the height of the floodwaters
- Nome:
 - District in ancient Egypt with its own government, gods and capital city

Vocabulary – Day 10



- **Nubia:**

- A region along the Nile river, which is located in northern Sudan and southern Egypt. It thrived due to gold mines and trade networks.

- **Nun:**

- Chaos, nothingness

- **Nut:**

- The sky, daughter of Shu and Tefnut, sister and wife of Geb

- **Osiris:**

- God of the dead, son of Geb and Nut, brother and husband of Isis

Vocabulary – Day 11



- **Papyrus:**

- A kind of paper made from papyrus, a reed plant growing along the Nile, that the ancient Egyptians used for writing

- **Pharaoh:**

- The title used by the rulers of ancient Egypt

- **Punt:**

- Located in modern day Ethiopia or Somalia. Southern neighbors of Egypt

- **Scribe:**

- A professional writer who kept records and copied letters and official documents

Vocabulary – Day 12



- Sekhmet:
 - The lioness form of Ra's eye
- Senet:
 - An ancient Egyptian game much like backgammon
- Set:
 - Son of Geb and But, brother of Isis and Osiris
- Shabti:
 - A worker statue placed in the tomb which could magically come to life and work for the pharaoh or noble buried in the tomb during the afterlife

Vocabulary – Day 13

- **Shu:**
 - Ra's son, Lord of the Air
- **Silt:**
 - A mixture of tiny bits of soil and rock carried and deposited by a river
- **Slavery:**
 - The practice of one person owning another person
- **Social Pyramid:**
 - A diagram illustrating the divisions within a culture; usually showing the most powerful person or group at the peak and the least powerful groups at the bottom

Vocabulary – Day 14



- Tefnut:
 - Ra's daughter, goddess of dew and life-giving moisture
- Thebes:
 - A city in Ancient Egypt, natively known as Waset, located about 800 km south of the Mediterranean, on the east bank of the river Nile within the modern city of Luxor
- Thoth:
 - The moon-god, the Measurer of all things, a scribe
- Tuat:
 - The underworld

Vocabulary – Day 15



- **Tutankhamun:**

- An Egyptian pharaoh of the 18th dynasty, during the period of Egyptian history known as the New Kingdom. He is popularly referred to as King Tut

- **Unification:**

- The joining of separate parts, such as kingdoms, into one

- **Upper Egypt:**

- The strip of land, on both sides of the Nile valley, that extends between Nubia, and downriver to Lower Egypt

- **Uraeus:**

- Representation of a cobra worn on the headdress of a deity or pharaoh as a symbol of supreme power in Lower Egypt

Vocabulary – Day 16

- **Valley of Kings:**

- The Valley of the Gates of the Kings, is a valley in Egypt where, for a period of nearly 500 years from the 16th to 11th century BC, tombs were constructed for the Pharaohs and powerful nobles of the New Kingdom

- **Wadjet:**

- Goddess whose representation of a cobra worn on the headdress of a deity or pharaoh was a symbol of supreme power in Lower Egypt

- **Wedjat:**

- (Also udjat) the eye of Ra. Ra's first eye was the sun. Ra's new eye was the moon