

Ancient Egypt and Kush

- c. 5000 B.C. Agriculture begins along Nile River
- c. 4000 B.C. Egypt is made up of two kingdoms
- c. 3100 B.C. Narmer unites Egypt
- c. 2600 B.C. Old Kingdom period begins
- c. 2540 B.C. Great Pyramid at Giza built
- c. 2300 B.C. Old Kingdom declines
- c. 2050 B.C. Middle Kingdom begins
- c. 1500 B.C. Queen Hatshepsut reigns
- c. 1279 B.C. Ramses II takes the throne

The Egyptian civilization began in the fertile _____ River valley, where natural barriers discouraged invasions.

Between _____ B.C. and _____ B.C., hunters and food gatherers moved into the green Nile River valley from less fertile areas of Africa and southwest Asia. They settled down, farmed the land, and created several dozen villages along the riverbanks. These people became the earliest Egyptians.

- Egyptians had to rely on the Nile River because the weather was warm and sunny, and the land received little rainfall.
- The Nile is the world's _____ river
- Used the Nile for _____ and transportation.
- Winds from the north pushed sailboats south. The flow of the Nile carried them north. Egyptian villages thus had frequent, friendly contact with one another, unlike the hostile relations between the Mesopotamian city-states.
- The Nile floods were much more consistent and gentle than those of the Tigris and the Euphrates. As a result, the Egyptians were able to farm and live securely. They did not worry that sudden, heavy overflows would destroy their homes and crops, or that too little flooding would leave their fields _____.
- On both sides of the Nile Valley and its delta, deserts unfold as far as the eye can see.
 1. To the west is a vast desert that forms part of the Sahara the largest _____ in the world.
 2. To the east, stretching to the _____ Sea, is the Eastern Desert.
 3. Deserts kept outside _____ away from Egypt's territory.
 4. The Egyptians were luckier than the people of Mesopotamia. In that region, few natural barriers protected the cities. The Mesopotamians constantly had to fight off attackers, but Egypt rarely faced threats. As a result, Egyptian civilization was able to grow and prosper.
 5. The Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea provided Egyptians a way to _____ with people outside Egypt.

Inventions/Technologies:

- developed geometry to survey, or measure, land.
- developed principles of _____.
- they invented a _____-day calendar with 12 months grouped into 3 seasons. This calendar became the basis for our modern calendar.
- To determine the amount of stone needed for a pyramid, as well as the angles necessary for the walls, the Egyptians made advances in mathematics.
- They invented a system of written numbers based on _____.
- They also created fractions, using them with whole numbers to add, subtract, and divide.

In Egypt, as in Mesopotamia, skillful farming led to surpluses—extra amounts—of food. This freed some people to work as artisans instead of farmers. They wove cloth, made pottery, carved statues, or shaped copper into weapons and _____.

As more goods became available, Egyptians traded with each other. Before long, Egyptian traders were carrying goods beyond Egypt's borders to Mesopotamia.

The Rise of Government

The advances in farming, crafts, and trade created a need for government in Egypt. Government emerged to plan and to direct irrigation systems, surplus grain had to be stored and passed out in times of need, and disputes over land ownership had to be settled.

- Earliest rulers were village _____.
- Over time, a few strong chiefs united groups of villages into small kingdoms.
- By 4000 B.C., Egypt was made up of two large kingdoms. In the Nile delta was Lower Egypt. To the south, upriver, lay Upper Egypt.
- 3100 B.C., Narmer (NAR•muhr), the king of Upper Egypt, led his armies north and took control of Lower Egypt. The two kingdoms became _____.
- Narmer ruled from Memphis, a city he built on the border between the two kingdoms. Memphis developed into a center of culture and power along the Nile.
- To symbolize the kingdom's unity, Narmer wore a double crown. The helmet like _____ crown represented Upper Egypt, and the open _____ crown represented Lower Egypt

Over time, ancient Egypt would be ruled by 31 dynasties, which together lasted an estimated 2,800 years. Historians group Egypt's dynasties into three main time periods called _____. The earliest period, the Old Kingdom, was followed by the Middle Kingdom and then the New Kingdom. Each marked a long period of strong leadership and stability.

In ancient Egypt, the father headed the family. However, Egyptian women had more rights than females in most other early civilizations. In Egypt, women could own and pass on property. They could buy and sell goods, make wills, and obtain divorces. Upper-class women were in charge of temples and could perform religious _____.