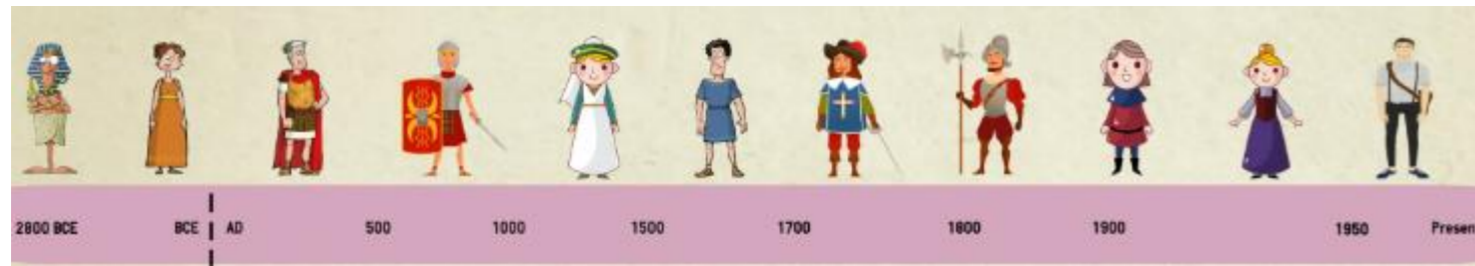


# The First Civilisations- Fact Sheet



Egypt has **hot and dry weather** because so much of it is a desert. The ancient Egyptians had to have clothing that was not too hot and allowed free flowing air to cool their bodies. Most of the clothes they wore were made of **linen** that was made from the flax plant.

Vocabulary	Definition
Afterlife	The place where the Ancient Egyptians believed they would go after they died.
Amulet	A charm worn that the Ancient Egyptians thought had magical powers.
Book of the Dead	A text that had a number of magic spells that were supposed to help a person in the afterlife.
Canopic jars	Special jars that held the organs of a mummy including the lungs, intestines, liver, and stomach.
Hieroglyphics	A type of writing used by the Ancient Egyptians that used a combination of pictures and symbols.
Imhotep	The architect of the first Egyptian pyramid. He was also the second in command after the pharaoh and was later made into a god.
Mummy	A dead body that has been specially preserved using embalming so that it won't rot.
Nefertiti	A queen of Egypt who was famous for her beauty.
Osiris	Egyptian god of the afterlife.
Papyrus	A plant that grew on the banks of the Nile. The Ancient Egyptians used it to make paper, boats, sandals, baskets, and rope.
Pharaoh	The supreme ruler of all of Ancient Egypt. He or she was considered a god.
Pyramid	A giant tomb built for the pharaohs of Egypt. It was made from stone and had four sides that came to a point at the top in a pyramid shape.
Rosetta stone	A special stone that had the same inscription written both in Greek and in Egyptian hieroglyphics. It was very helpful in translating and understanding hieroglyphics.
Sarcophagus	A large stone box that held a mummy's coffin.
Scribe	An Ancient Egyptian that was specially trained to read and write.
Shaduf	An Egyptian farming invention to water fields.
Sphinx	A mythological beast with the body of a lion and the head of a pharaoh or god. The Egyptians built sphinx statues to guard tombs.

The ancient Egyptians are famous for the building of the **Pyramids**. The pyramids were built as the burial places of the Egyptian kings.



Most Egyptians lived near **The Nile** as it provided, water, food transportation and excellent soil for growing food. The River Nile is the longest in the world.



### HIEROGLYPHICS

Hieroglyphs can mean the objects that they represent, but most of the time they stand for sounds. See if you can spell your name using hieroglyphics!

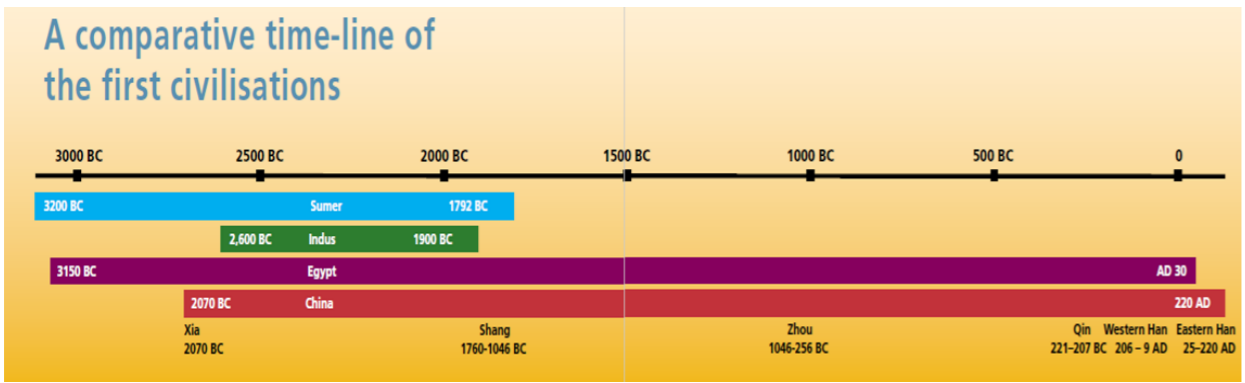
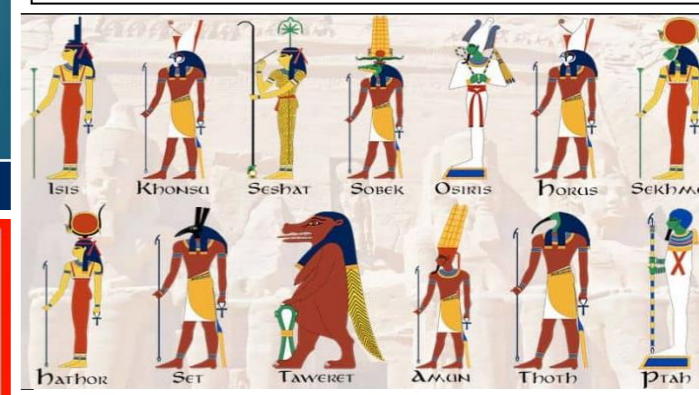
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The Ancient Egyptians helped us learn a lot about maths, medicine and farming. They also made their own paper out of reeds called **papyrus**, and wrote using pictures called **hieroglyphics**.



Men, women and children all wore **jewellery** in Ancient Egypt.

They worshipped different gods. There were **over 2000 names of Gods**.



Ancient Egypt	Ancient Sumer	Indus Valley	Shang Dynasty
<b>Time Period:</b> 3100BC - 550BC	<b>Time Period:</b> 3500BC - 2200BC	<b>Time Period:</b> 2600BC - 1300BC	<b>Time Period:</b> 1600BC - 1046BC
<b>Where in the world:</b> North East Africa along the River Nile	<b>Where in the world:</b> South Iraq between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers	<b>Where in the world:</b> Pakistan/India along the Indus River	<b>Where in the world:</b> Eastern China along the Yellow River
<b>Achievements:</b> Created a system of writing called hieroglyphics. Created one of the first types of paper called papyrus. Built enormous pyramids without modern technology. Introduced a calendar based around 365 days in a year.	<b>Achievements:</b> Created a system of time based around 60. They invented one of the world's first written languages, cuneiform. They made cylinder seals to act as identification. Sumerian government was part king (monarchy) and part council (elected.)	<b>Achievements:</b> Created a system of writing and a system for numbers and maths. The first to create public hygiene systems. Invented a uniform system for weights and measurements so building materials could be the same.	<b>Achievements:</b> Developed a system of writing that hasn't changed much in China. Developed ways of using bronze for stronger weapons and art. Created a strong government to help them rule where people had certain jobs and roles.
<b>Impact on today's world:</b> One of the first writing systems. We still use a calendar based around 365 days (plus a quarter). Some of their building techniques are still used today.	<b>Impact on today's world:</b> The same system of time is still used today. Signatures are still used for identification. Monarchy and government still exist in Britain today.	<b>Impact on today's world:</b> Public health is taken very seriously today. Maths is used all over the world for building accurately, as well as using standard sized bricks and materials.	<b>Impact on today's world:</b> China still uses a writing system similar to that of the Shang Dynasty. Governments around the world are still organised in a similar way.

