

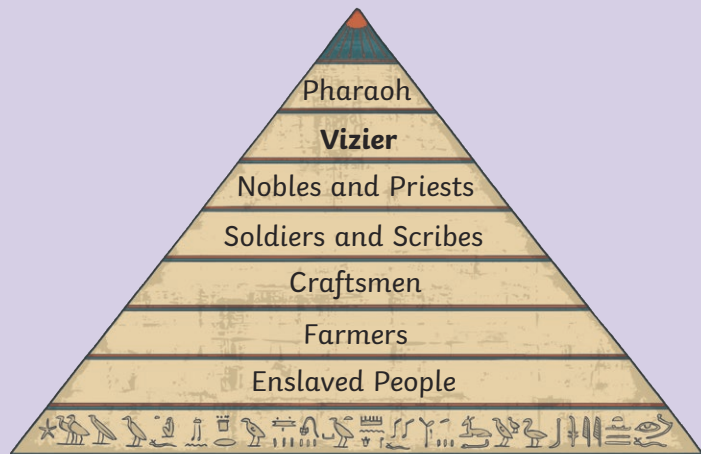
# Life in Ancient Egypt

The ancient Egyptian period began over 5,000 years ago and lasted for around 3,000 years. During this time, ancient Egyptian life saw many changes.

## Society

Ancient Egyptians were skilled farmers and strong believers in religion. They made one of the first solar calendars as well as a language called **hieroglyphics**. The ancient Egyptians were great inventors, and some of the things they invented are still in use today.

People of ancient Egypt were put into different classes. This was shown as a pyramid with the pharaoh at the top.



## Markets and Merchants

Markets were important to life in ancient Egypt. The people grew lots of grain and used a 'barter system'. Stones named 'debens' were used to value items. Trading with other countries made sure people got the food and other items they needed.

Some of the most popular items included linen, papyrus, grain and precious metals and stones.

## Transport and the Nile

Due to the hot **climate**, ancient Egyptian life grew around the river Nile. For transport, trade and day-to-day activities, the Nile was key.

Towns and cities sprung up all along the river's banks. During the summer, wet weather would cause the Nile to flood, which made the ground perfect for growing crops.

### Did You Know...?

- There were over 2,000 gods and goddesses.
- The people believed that they would live forever in an afterlife when they died.
- When someone died, their body was **mummified**.



### Glossary

**climate** – Weather conditions in a place over a period of time.

**hieroglyphics** – Language using symbols and pictures.

**mummified** – Wrapped in cloth to keep safe and dry.

**vizier** – An important person below the pharaoh.

# Questions

1. Which of the following are items used for trade? Tick **two**.

- flags
- linen
- weapons
- papyrus

2. How many gods did the ancient Egyptians believe in? Tick **one**.

- 500-1,000
- 1,000-1,500
- 1,500-2,000
- over 2,000

3. Number the sections from 1-4 to show the order in which they appear in the text.

- Did You Know...?
- Transport and the Nile
- Society
- Markets and Merchants

4. Draw 3 lines to match the word to its meaning.

**mummified**

**Language using symbols and pictures.**

**vizier**

**Wrapped in cloth to keep safe and dry.**

**hieroglyphics**

**An important person below the pharaoh.**

5. What were 'debens'?

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6. Fill in the missing words.

Ancient Egyptians were skilled \_\_\_\_\_ and strong believers in \_\_\_\_\_. They made one of the first solar calendars as well as a language called \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Why was the river Nile so important to life in ancient Egypt?

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