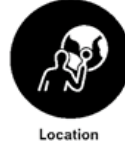


Year: 6

Term: Spring 2

Topic: What were the Ancient Egyptian's most significant achievements?

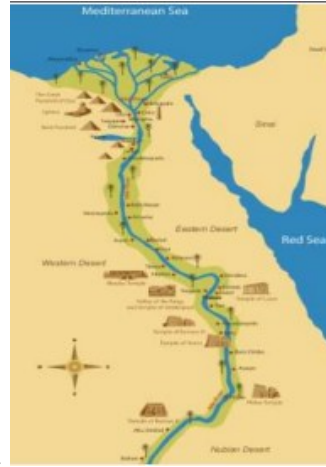


What is a **civilisation**? A civilisation is a developed society. Civilisations share common features, including: cities, inventions, language, writing, hierarchy, leadership, infrastructure, arts and culture, trade and religion. Ancient civilisations first appeared over **6000** years ago.

There are four ancient civilizations Ancient Sumer, The Indus Valley, Ancient Egypt and the Shang Dynasty of Ancient China. .

Ancient Egyptian Civilisation  
**4500BC – 332BC**

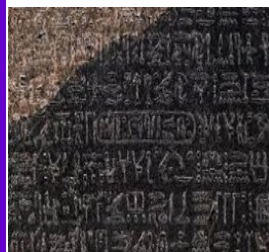
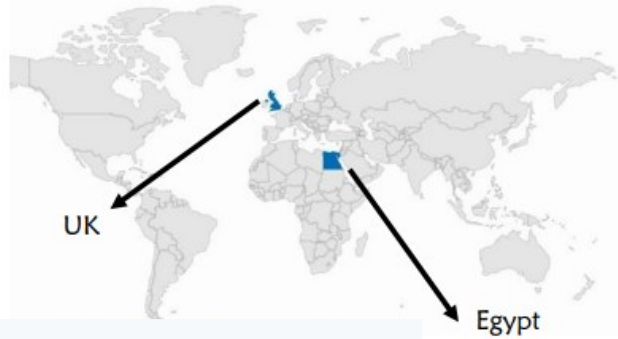
**The River Nile** The first people came to live by the Nile in 5000 BC because it provided ancient Egypt with fertile soil and water, as well as a means of transporting materials for building projects. To get the most out of the Nile's waters, ancient Egyptian farmers developed a system



called basin irrigation. They constructed networks of earthen banks to form basins, and dug channels to direct floodwater water into the basins, where it would sit for a month until the soil was saturated and ready for planting.

**Glossary**

- ancient Something that is very, very old, from a time thousands of years ago.
- civilisation A developed society
- cuneiform One of the earliest writing systems in the world.
- fertile Soil or land, capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops.
- hieroglyphics A type of writing that used a combination of pictures and symbols.
- irrigation The digging of channels to allow water to flow through a field to water crops.
- mummification A process used in ancient Egypt to preserve a dead body so it would not rot.
- Oracle A holy person or place where people went to ask the gods for advice or predictions about the future.
- Pharaoh The king or queen of Ancient Egypt.
- Polytheism A belief system where people worship many gods.
- Shaduf A farming machine used to lift water from a river to irrigate fields.
- ziggurat A large, stepped temple tower. People believed it helped them to be closer to the gods.



**The Rosetta Stone** The Rosetta Stone is an ancient carving which helped us to translate hieroglyphics. Some text was written in ancient Greek which made it possible to translate.

**Pyramids** The first pyramid was built in 2,640 BC. The largest pyramid was the Great Pyramid of Giza. It's generally believed that the Egyptians moved massive stone blocks to the heights along large ramps, greased by water or wet clay, using a system of sledges, ropes, rollers, and levers.



The Egyptians were great at **inventing!** They invented medicine, musical instruments, paper, pens, locks, keys, cosmetics and even toothpaste. Ancient Egyptians identified natural substances with antibiotic properties that could be used to treat infections. In addition, they discovered the anti-inflammatory properties of incense.

