Ancient Egypt Notes Packet

Name: _____________________________       Class Per. ______
Geography & Early Settlement of Egypt

Introduction:
• The Egyptians settled along the ________ River, in the northeast corner of Africa.
• The Egyptian civilization lasted from ________ BCE to ________ CE.

Environmental Factors:
• There were three important environmental factors that led to the Egyptian civilization: ____________, ____________, and _____________.
  o _________________ means the shape of the land.
  o _________________ means plant life.
• Environmental factors depended on _______________ features. These are things like: ____________, mountains, ____________, deserts, ____________, and the fertility of the soil.

Water:
• Rivers, ____________, and inland seas are all good sources of fresh water.
• Water was important to ancient civilizations for many reasons.
• Water was a good source of food through hunting and through farming.
  o Farmers settled by _____________. The river’s natural flooding helped to ____________ crops.

Topography
• Topography refers to the shape of the land, and includes mountains, hills, plains, and deserts.
• Farmers usually settled in ____________, and ____________ areas such as plains and valleys. These large spaces gave their crops room to grow.

Vegetation
• There are a lot of kinds of vegetation such as: __________, bushes, flowers, grass, and __________.
• __________ weather, regular rain, and fresh water are __________ for plant life.
• Vegetation influenced human settlement in many ways:
  o People ________ wild plants and crops.
  o People _________ products out of plants such as: medicine, baskets, __________, tools, and __________.
Environmental Factors & the Settlement of Egypt

Physical Features:
• The Nile River created a long, __________ valley that ended in a marshy delta near the Mediterranean Sea.
• Delta: An area of ______________ deposited at the mouth of a river.
• In your own words a delta is: ________________________________
• The deserts created a natural __________ that protected people who lived along the Nile.

Environmental Factors:
• The Nile was a source of __________ water in an area that was mostly __________.
• The Nile River provided natural __________ and fertilization.
• Fertilization: The process of adding fertilizer or ________ ________ to the soil.
• Use the word fertilization in a sentence.

• Fertilization: The process of adding fertilizer or ________ ________ to the soil.
• Use the word fertilization in a sentence.
• Plants were very plentiful in the Nile River valley. Some of the useful plants included reeds, and ______________.

• **Papyrus** is a tough water plant. Papyrus was used to make ___________ and ______________.
Pharaoh Khufu: The Pyramid Builder

• Pharaoh Khufu ruled from ______ to ______ BCE during the ______ Kingdom period.
• He built the famous ______________
• Khufu helped to establish the pharaoh as a __________ authority. He declared himself a __________.
• Khufu kept strict control over Egypt’s food supplies by overseeing the __________ and storing extra grain.
• Pharaoh Khufu built the Great Pyramid of ______ as a __________ for himself and his family.

The Great Pyramid
• The Great Pyramid was built with over 2 __________ stone blocks.
• It took ____________ years for the pyramid to be completed by __________________ of workers.
Pharaoh Senusret I: Patron of the Arts

- Senusret I ruled from 1971 to __________ BCE during the _________ Kingdom.
- ________, literature, and _________________ flourished while he was pharaoh.
- Senusret controlled mines filled with __________, __________, and __________.
- Pharaoh Senusret built and improved many ____________, ____________, and religious monuments.

Pharaoh Hatshepsut & Egyptian Trade

- Hatshepsut ruled from 1473 to ________ BCE; she was Egypt’s first ______________ pharaoh.
- While she was pharaoh, art and ____________ flourished, and __________ was encouraged.
- Hatshepsut encouraged ____________ with other countries. Her biggest trading expedition was to an _____________ kingdom called Punt.
- During Hatshepsut’s reign, trade helped spread ____________ influence along the Nile and in the ______________ ____________.
Compare & Contrast

Pharaoh Khufu

Pharaoh Hatshepsut

Pharaoh Senusret I
Egyptian Social Pyramid

Directions: Using page 81, with a partner fill out this pyramid. Then discuss what you think that each class did.
Egyptian Social Classes

Directions: With your group research your assigned social class using your textbook only, and then write down notes that you think are important that the rest of the class will need to write copy down.

Government Officials:
- 
- 

Priests:
- 
- 

Scribes:
- 
- 

Artisans:
-
Peasants:

Research Project Directions
* For the rest of this week, you will be researching your assigned social group. For this research project, you will be using your textbook, books from the library, and the Internet.

* On Friday your group will be presenting the information you have found using a PowerPoint presentation. Your presentation must be at least 6 minutes long, and must include text and pictures.

* Everyone in the group will be graded on their participation in both the research portion and the presentation portion of the project.

* Be sure to use the following page to help outline your research. If you need help, be sure to ask either the librarian or me; we would be happy to help!
Social Class Research Project

Name of Social Class:

Importance of Social Class:
  •
  •
  •

What did people in this social class do?

What was their daily life like?

Other important facts:
Government Officials

• The three important officials in the Egyptian government were the ______________, the general of the ______________, and the chief treasurer.
• The vizier was the second in command, after the ______________. It was the vizier’s job to carry out the pharaoh’s ______________, he also ______________ and supervised other government officials.
• The ______________ was also the chief judge. He was expected to be ____________.
• The chief treasurer looked after the government’s ______________.
• The general of the armies was the top military ______________ in Egypt. He advised the pharaoh about _______ and national _______________. He also helped the pharaoh form _______________ with other nations.
• Many government officials led lives of ______________ with great wealth, and ______________ homes. They also held very ______________ ________________.
Priests

• Priests were _______________ and highly _______________ in Egypt.
• The pharaoh was the highest ranked _____________ of all.

Duties of the Priests

• The _____________ Priest advised the pharaoh and oversaw all _______________ ceremonies.
• _______________ priests were in charge of the _______________ scattered throughout Egypt.

Duties of the Temple Priests

• Every temple in Egypt was home to a _________ or __________________. The temple priest’s main job was to take ___________ of the god.

Burial Practices

• Since Egyptians believed that a person needed their _________ in the afterlife, burial was very important.
• Priests practiced ________________.
  o Embalming: To use __________________ to keep a dead body from __________________.
  o Embalming Steps:
    ▪ Embalmers removed the body’s _____________, such as the brain, ____________, and liver.
    ▪ The __________ was left in the body.
    ▪ The removed organs were kept in _____________ jars.
- After 70 days, the embalmers washed and _________ the body.
- Then, they wrapped the body in ____________ of yards of linen.
- They decorated the body with _________ and protective _________. They would often place a _________ over the head.
- Finally, the priests spread a black, __________ gum over the body and wrapped it again.
- After all those steps, the dead body was placed in a wooden _______ that was placed in a ________________.
  - Sarcophagus: A large stone ________________.
  - The sarcophagus was often filled with items such as food, ____________, gold, jewelry, and clothes.
Artisans

Artisan: A ____________ skilled laborer who created beautiful works of ________.

What Did Artisans Do?

• Artisans could have been: ______________, jewelers, leatherworkers, metalworkers, __________, potters, sculptors, and weavers.
• Painters portrayed scenes from ______________ life.
• Weavers made ____________ and ______________.
• The most skilled artisan was a ____________ carver. They had to carve ____________ from stone. They were also very important in tomb ______________.

Daily Life of an Artisan

• Artisans worked very hard. They would often work for _______ days before they would take a day off.
• Although artisans were very ____________ and creative, the upper classes often viewed them as common ______________.
Peasants made up the ________________ class in the Egyptian social system.

Three Seasons of the Nile

• **Flooding Season:** This is when the Nile overran its banks and fertilized the soil. Since the farmers had to wait to plant, they would work on ___________ projects.

• **Planting Season:** Began in October and was when farmers planted their crops such as wheat and barley. Planting was a _______ person job. One person would __________ the ground with a plow pulled by ____________, while the second person (usually the farmer’s ____________) followed behind and scattered the ______________. Farmers had to make sure that their land was carefully ____________________.

• **Harvest Season:** Men would cut down the plants with sickles, and women and children would ______________ the ______________. During this time, everyone worked from dawn until dusk.

Taxes:

• At the end of the harvest season, peasants were either ________________ or ________________ for their crop production.

• If the peasant worked hard and grew a lot of grain they were ________________. The pharaoh allowed them to gather up
as much _______________ grain as they could. The peasant was able to keep this grain and use it for ___________.

• However, if the peasant did not grow enough food, they were punished, and sometimes brutally ________________.

• All of the peasants were required to pay ______________ to the pharaoh in the form of crops.