

Nile to Now

Read how land, leadership, work, and ideas shaped ancient Egypt.

3.4 “The student will apply history and social science skills to describe the geographic, political, economic, and social structures and innovations of ancient Egypt by locating ancient Egypt on a map of the world...”

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline details that show how the Nile supported jobs or trade, circle details about the pharaoh and officials, and write 1 beside an art or innovation and 2 beside a building feature that influences today.

Life Along the Nile

- ① Ancient Egypt lay in northeastern Africa, along the Nile River. Deserts on both sides made travel hard, but the river gave people water and rich soil. Each year, the Nile flooded and left mud that helped crops grow. Farmers raised wheat and flax. The river also carried boats with people and goods from one village to another.
- ② Egypt was ruled by a pharaoh, the chief leader. Egyptians believed the pharaoh had a special link to the gods. Officials helped the pharaoh collect taxes, keep records, and manage work projects. Most people were farmers. Other workers were scribes, craftspeople, soldiers, and builders. Their jobs helped villages, trade, government, and building projects work together.
- ③ Egyptians used hieroglyphics, a picture writing system, to record ideas. Scribes wrote on papyrus, a paperlike material made from a river plant. Artists painted scenes and made statues. Builders used stone to make temples and pyramids. Pyramids were tombs for pharaohs. Tall columns, stone obelisks, and pyramid shapes still inspire buildings and monuments in the world today.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 On which continent was ancient Egypt located, and which river ran through it?

2 Explain two ways the Nile helped Egypt's economy.

3 How did the pharaoh and officials help govern ancient Egypt?

4 Name one Egyptian innovation from the passage and one architectural feature that still inspires buildings today.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create a three-panel sketch that shows how ancient Egypt's land, government, and ideas worked together. In Panel 1, show the Nile helping farming or trade. In Panel 2, show the pharaoh or officials at work. In Panel 3, show an Egyptian art, innovation, or building feature and a way it can influence the world today. Write a caption for each panel.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline details that show how the Nile supported jobs or trade, circle details about the pharaoh and officials, and write 1 beside an art or innovation and 2 beside a building feature that influences today. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	On which continent was ancient Egypt located, and which river ran through it?	Ancient Egypt was in Africa, along the Nile River.
2	Explain two ways the Nile helped Egypt's economy.	The Nile gave farmers water and rich soil for crops. It also carried boats with people and goods for trade.
3	How did the pharaoh and officials help govern ancient Egypt?	The pharaoh was the chief leader. Officials collected taxes, kept records, and managed work projects.
4	Name one Egyptian innovation from the passage and one architectural feature that still inspires buildings today.	Answers may name hieroglyphics or papyrus as an innovation, and columns, obelisks, or pyramid shapes as features that still inspire buildings or monuments.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Panel 1: I drew the Nile beside a wheat field and a boat carrying goods. Caption: The Nile gave farmers water and soil, and boats carried goods for trade. Panel 2: I drew a pharaoh with an official writing records. Caption: Officials helped the pharaoh collect taxes and manage projects. Panel 3: I drew a pyramid beside a modern building with a pyramid shape. Caption: Egyptian pyramid shapes still inspire buildings today.

Accept equivalent details that are stated in the passage. For the three-panel task, look for an accurate Nile connection, a government role, and an accurate art, innovation, or architectural influence with clear captions.