

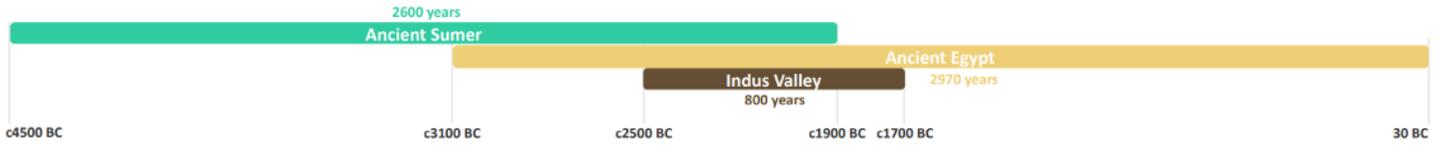
Ancient Civilisations

We are asking the question

What influenced the rise and fall of ancient civilisations?

Ancient Civilisations

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 in, or near, a semicircular area of land in the Middle East known as the Fertile Crescent. The climate, availability of water and variety of plants in the Fertile Crescent meant that nomadic hunter-gatherers could settle in one place and begin to farm for the first time.



Sticky Knowledge

1. What was the role of a pharaoh?
2. Why were the pyramids built?
3. Name four features of a civilisation?
4. How does farming and food help a civilisation?
5. Name a significant Sumer invention and explain how it improved lives?
6. Who was Howard Carter and why is he important?

Ancient Sumer



Ancient Sumer was the very first civilisation. It originated between the Euphrates and Tigris rivers in modern Iraq. Being near a river was important for early civilisations, providing water for drinking and fertile soil for agriculture. The ancient Sumerian civilisation began c4500 BC and lasted for around 2600 years.

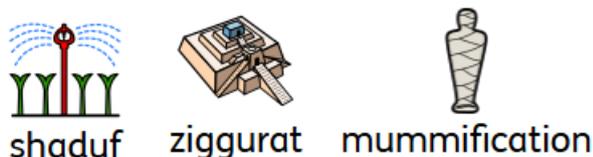
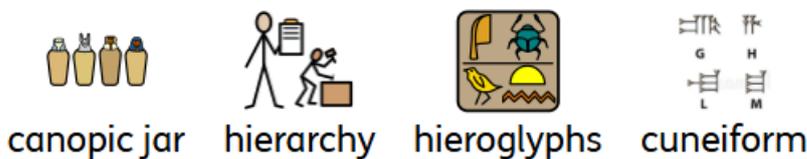
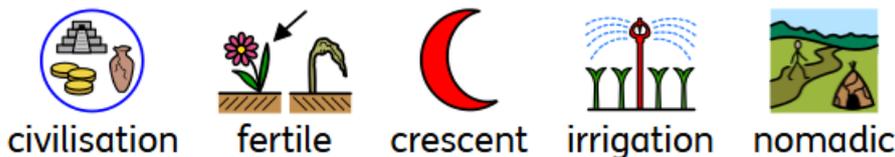
Ancient Egypt



The ancient Egyptian civilisation began on the banks of the Nile, in the Fertile Crescent. Egypt was initially split into Upper Egypt in the south and Lower Egypt in the north. It became one kingdom c3150 BC. The civilisation lasted for around 2970 years.

Similarities and differences

The ancient Sumerians, ancient Egyptians and Indus Valley civilisation all developed next to rivers, which they used to provide water, transport and irrigation systems. They all made good use of the fertile land for growing crops. Each civilisation invented new things to advance their society. It is likely that these civilisations shared similarities because they coexisted for a period of time and were connected by trade. However, there were differences. Kings ruled individual city states in ancient Sumer, whereas pharaohs ruled all of ancient Egypt. Also, the Indus Valley civilisation planned their cities, whereas the cities of ancient Sumer and ancient Egypt grew and changed over time.



Sumer city



Sumer invention of the plough



Ancient Egyptian city

Tutankhamun

Perhaps the most famous pharaoh, was Tutankhamun. He became pharaoh in 1332 BCE at just nine years old and is often referred to as the 'boy king'. He died at only 19 years old following what is believed to have been a broken leg from a chariot crash and possible malaria. However, Tutankhamun's fame is largely down to the discovery of his tomb.



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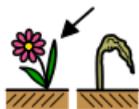
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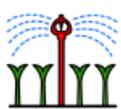
civilisation



fertile



crescent



irrigation



nomadic



mummification



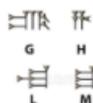
canopic jar



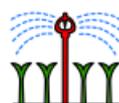
hierarchy



hieroglyphs



cuneiform



shaduf



ziggurat