

**Flora & Fauna**

- *Plants: papyrus, lotus, wheat, barley, lettuce, beans, onions, figs, dates, grapes, melons, and cucumbers. (The latter items were crops that the Nile made available to the Egyptians.)*
- *Unique wild animals: hippopotamus, ibis, and crocodile, among others.*
- *Domesticated animals: cattle, goats, ducks, geese, donkeys, and sometimes bees.*

**Geographical Features**

- *On most maps, the Nile flows “up”—which is north. On the ground, it flows downhill from the Ethiopian highlands in the south to the Nile Delta.*
- *The Nile regularly flooded in spring, bringing rich silt to fertilize crops and creating reservoirs of water for irrigation.*
- *Trade winds blow from north to south, while the Nile’s current flows south to north. Thus transportation could be aided by winds or currents!*

Your student was instructed to fill in this diagram with facts about life along the Nile.

He need not have included all the facts here, but he should list at least two in each quadrant.

**Recreation**

- *Many wealthy Egyptians had pleasure barges for parties or cruising.*
- *Hunting hippopotamuses and crocodiles were major sports.*
- *Fishing was a popular pastime.*

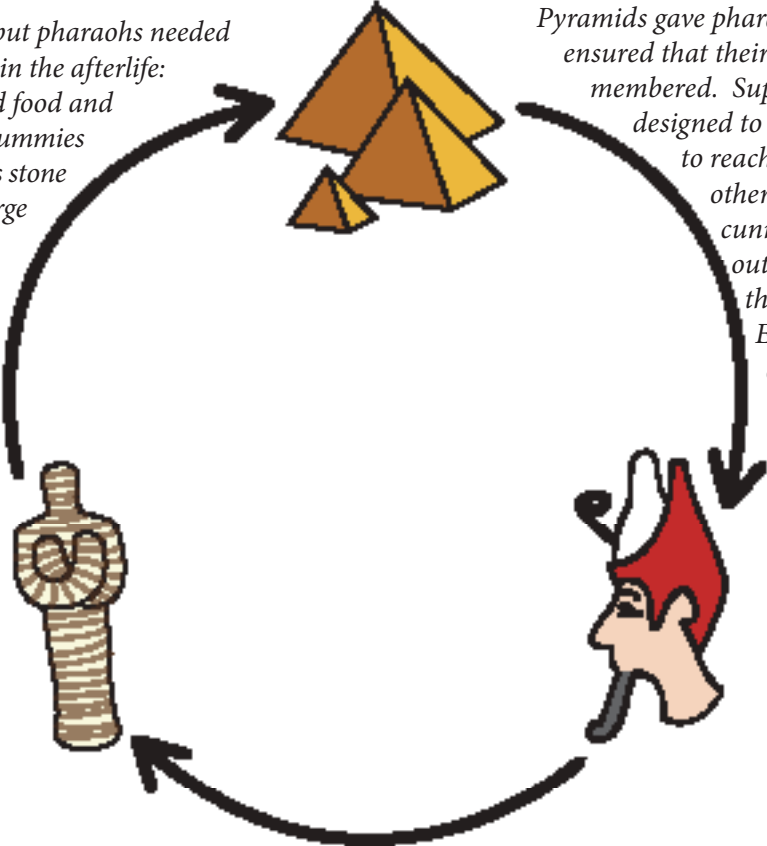
**Farming and Foods**

- *Egyptians followed a yearly farming cycle that was dependent on the regular flooding of the Nile each spring.*
- *Egyptians enjoyed a balanced and varied diet because of the Nile, including wheat, barley, lettuce, beans, onions, figs, dates, grapes, melons, and cucumbers. These were supplemented by livestock and fish.*

Your student has been instructed to give facts about the relationships between pyramids and pharaohs, pharaohs and mummies, and mummies and pyramids. He need not provide all the details given here, but he should list at least one major relationship between each pair.

*Embalming was good, but pharaohs needed more than their bodies in the afterlife: they needed clothes and food and furniture. Thus, the mummies were put into enormous stone houses—pyramids—large enough to hold a pharaoh’s household and keep the burglars out!*

*Pyramids gave pharaohs prestige and ensured that their names would be remembered. Supposedly they were also designed to enable the pharaoh to reach the sky and join the other gods. Pyramids were cunningly made to keep out thieves and protect the treasures which Egyptians believed necessary to the afterlife.*



*Pharaohs (and noblemen) had themselves embalmed (mummified) because they believed that the physical body would be needed in the afterlife. Mummification, they thought, would keep the spirit of the pharaoh alive forever. This was also a good way to honor the pharaoh, even in death.*

**MERCHANT**

- Nile transports trading goods all over Egypt.
- Trade is carried on with other nations as well.



**MESSENGER**

- Nile carries messengers of many kinds: from pharaoh's palace to army leaders, or from merchants to customers, or between family members.
- Current flows north; winds blow south. Messengers thus move quickly both up and downstream.



**QUARRY AND MINING**

- Nile carries stone blocks to building sites downstream.
- Precious metals are mined in northern regions and then transported downstream to artisans.



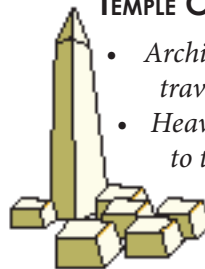
**EGYPTIAN ARMY**

- Nile carries messages to and from pharaoh, which direct the army's movements from afar.
- Troops can move quickly by boat if one part of the kingdom is attacked.



**TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION**

- Architects can send messages to quarry workers and travel to inspect blocks before they come downstream.
- Heavy stone blocks travel quickly and with relative ease to the new temple on the Nile.



**FARMER AND FAMILY**

- Nile provides food by watering fields and bringing silt down each year to enrich them.
- Farmers' rhythms of life and work are dictated by annual flooding of the Nile.
- Forced labor for pharaoh was necessary because the flooding Nile ruined buildings, irrigation ditches, and roads each year.

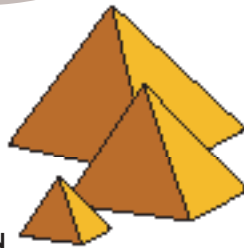


**PHARAOH'S PALACE AT THEBES**

- Messengers are carried to the palace by the Nile.
- Merchant goods are carried to the palace by the Nile.
- Taxes from farmers are carried to the palace by the Nile.



Your student has been asked to explain how the Nile could be useful to each of the people or places represented on this diagram, especially in relation to one another. These sample answers demonstrate the kind of response that the student should provide.



**PYRAMID CONSTRUCTION**

- Nile carries stone from the quarries.
- Nile carries messages from the palace.
- Nile carries architects to the new pyramids.

Your student was instructed to write how one or more of the Ten Plagues was a judgment on each god or goddess. Bear in mind that different resources describe the roles and powers of Egyptian gods differently. This evaluation is meant to test your student's ability to draw connections between the information we give and the implications of the Ten Plagues. When more than one plague is listed for any one god or goddess, your student need supply only one of them.



**Re (Ra),  
god of the sun**

- *Plague of darkness: the sun was overcome by darkness for three days.*



**Hathor, goddess  
represented by the cow**

- *Plague on livestock: Hathor's sacred symbols, cows, died in large numbers, reflecting dishonor on the goddess and proving her helplessness to save them.*



**Ptah, creator-god  
represented by the Apis bull**

- *Plague on livestock: animals sacred to this and many other gods were struck down.*



**Horus, first divine Pharaoh**

- *Plague on the firstborn: the son and heir of Pharaoh, who would have become the next pharaoh and so the next "Horus incarnate," was killed. The first sign of Pharaoh's strength and the pride of his house was torn from him.*
- *An alternate answer is "All the plagues," since all of them together put the "divine" pharaoh to shame!*



**Thoth, god of magic**

- *Latter plagues (plagues of gnats, flies, livestock, boils, hail, Locusts): the Egyptian magicians were unable to match the power of God by their secret arts.*

**Isis, goddess of  
magic and healing**



- *Plague of boils: the Egyptians were struck with terrible diseases, and no divinity relieved them.*
- *Latter plagues (plagues of gnats, flies, livestock, boils, hail, locusts): the Egyptian magicians were unable to match the power of God by their secret arts.*

**Osiris, god of crops**



- *Plagues of hail and of locusts: crops all over Egypt were completely destroyed, and Osiris was powerless to make them grow.*

**Hapi, god of the Nile**



- *Plague of blood: the river that was the life-source of Egypt, which Egyptians worshiped in numerous forms, became fatally polluted and unable to support life.*

**Khnum, creator-god of the  
Nile, represented by the ram**



- *Plague of blood: the Nile river, with which Khnum was associated, became fatally polluted and unable to support life.*
- *Plague on livestock: Khnum's sacred symbols, rams, died in large numbers, reflecting dishonor on the god and proving his helplessness to save them.*

**Heget, goddess of fertility,  
represented by the frog**



- *Plague of fogs: Egyptians were first harassed by frogs, Heget's sacred symbol, and then forced to burn piles of them when they all died.*

Your student has been instructed to use a Venn diagram to compare the Egyptian idols and God. He need not provide all the answers given below.

