

Introduction (Emmy Elter)

Egypt has a unique history, and because of the process of mummification we are able to learn about that history. Because of a dry climate, their tombs were able to survive, like huge time capsules.

In the topic “Mummification Process” we learn about the process of mummification, and how they prepared the body for the rituals that they did to get them to the afterlife. In “Afterlife and Religion” we learn about Egyptian gods, how they wanted to enjoy the afterlife, and how they used their temples. In “Medical Skills” we learn about Egyptian doctors, what they did, and the tools they used. In “Tombs” we learn about the significance of a tomb and what they put in them, besides the mummy.

These topics all go hand in hand even if they don't seem too. “Tombs” goes with “Afterlife and Religion” because religion influenced why they had the tombs. If their religion didn't exist the “Tombs” and the “Mummification process” wouldn't either. “Mummification process” uses “Medical Skills” to actually do the procedure. In short, mummification has a major part of why we learn about the Egyptian life.

Mummification Process (Sinclair Rowland)

The mummification process was used to ensure a person's journey into the afterlife. There were many steps to a mummification process which was completed in 70 days. The first step of mummifying was removing internal organs from the body. The liver was in a jar with the human head of the god Imsety, The lungs were in a jar with the head of the god Hapy, the stomach was in the head of the jackal headed god Duamutef and finally the Intestines were in a jar with the falcon headed god Qebehsenuf. The brain was discarded and thrown away and the heart was left in the body because in the afterlife there was a trial called “The Weighing Of The Heart” where they would weigh your heart for purity if you failed this test your heart will qbe eaten by the god Ammut (body of a hippo and head of a croc). The Second Step of Mummification was after 40 days of natron drying out, the natron was finally removed , the body was rubbed in oils and the inner cavity packed with sawdust and linen. The 3rd step was that the mummies face was painted on or a mask was added. The bandages are stiffened with plaster to create a case for the mummy. And finally the body was placed in a coffin. The coffin was pulled by boat and then pulled to your tomb by slab. The Mourners at your funeral were HIRED PROFESSIONALS and would wear blue dresses (the symbol of mourning) and threw ash on themselves. At your tomb the priests touches his lips with tools to restore your senses so your soul can return. You are set for the afterlife.

Religion and the Afterlife (Emma Elter)

Religion is a significant part of Egyptian culture. Egyptians believed in polytheism, which is the belief in multiple gods. There are gods for a lot of things such as agriculture, medicine, guardian of women and children, war, music, and death.

Osiris was the King of the Underworld which is different from the God of Death Anubis. The King had more power and ruled over the entire underworld. Osiris was known to be strict about who could get into the afterlife. Pharaohs who were the sons of a God were always allowed to get in. In comparison, slaves were never allowed because they weren't considered to be people. Typical Egyptian citizens had a harder path to the afterlife. They had to go through a difficult judge Anubis who would weigh their hearts. If you failed, with your heart being too heavy, you got sent to Ammit "the Devour of the Dead," who would eat your heart out. If you were approved you would have a long hard journey to Osiris.

Most Egyptians wanted to enjoy the afterlife, so wealthy people had families pack things like gold-wrapped chairs or chariots, lots of food, and wine. If you had any pets they would be mummified to meet you there, so you could enjoy the afterlife together. Pets were considered sacred and would be put in tombs presiding right next to their owner.

Another major part of this religion was the temples that connected them to the gods. They were called pyramids, and the higher they were the closer they could be to them. The ground floor was open to the public but the top area was considered holy and only for the priests. These temples were usually in the center of the city and were the main temples for the city. In the temples, many rituals were done at the top of the pyramid. These rituals could be a ceremony for crops or a ceremony for birth.

In short, religion and the afterlife was a major influence on how Egyptians lived.

Medical Skills (Venessa Tsuprun)

In Ancient Egypt doctors used herbs and drugs to treat different illnesses. They also used Splints and bandages to heal scratches or cuts. Egyptians were one of the first humans to write down medical information in books using Papyrus scrolls. They also performed minor surgery when it was needed. When performing surgery surgeons used sharp "disposable" blades made from the stems of dried reeds. By 1500 B.C.E. Egyptian surgeons started using metal knives and other surgical tools. Dentists called "Toothists" or "tooth workers" were important in ancient Egypt, they helped a lot of people fix teeth by applying medicines to the teeth. They wrapped gold wire around loose teeth to prevent them from falling out. All of these tools people used in ancient Egypt helped learn about the mummification process we know of today.

Pyramid Tombs (continued Venessa Tsuprun)

Ancient Egyptians honored their pharaohs in a unique way. They built great tombs for them called “pyramids.” When people built large tombs it most likely signified the importance of the dead. The tombs were made of stone and covered the area of several city blocks. The tombs helped protect the dead buried in them from floods, wild animals, and robbers. The tombs were very important for the mummification process because without them, the Ancient Egyptians would’ve had to honor their pharaohs in a completely different way.

Conclusion (Venessa Tsuprun)

In conclusion, Based on our notes and topics , Religion , Medical skills, mummification process, and tombs. We learned that all of those parts helped make the mummification process complete and without them people would know of something completely different today.