

Modern Life in Ancient Egypt

Would you survive in Ancient Egypt?

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The three sections that our group will be covering are:

- Daily Life
- Culture
- Social Structure

Daily Life - led by Aleen K.

Housing

At Egypt's Peak, there was a **population** of about 5 million. Most people lived in the **Nile valley** and **delta**, even though they only make up **3% of Egypt's land**.

Ancient Egyptian houses weren't the best for their time, but it worked. The construction was made out of **mud bricks** that they would have to leave in the sun to dry for several days. The shape of the houses would **built with very high rectangular walls** with one narrow door to take the advantage of the wind for "**air conditioning**". **Renovations** were later made to Egyptian houses, such as, **stairs, windows, etc.** These are the type of houses the Ancient Egyptians **built** for the intense heat at day but the intense cold at night.



Jobs

There were many **jobs** in Ancient Egypt, and all of them had an **purpose**. Jobs included **bakers, priests, noblemen, soldiers, farmers, merchants, artists, scribes, and more**. Most of these would be **inherited** from relatives, for example if your father was a scribe, you would most likely also be a scribe when you grow up. The **most common job** was farming since this was the easiest job for a commoner to get.



Clothing

Clothing played a **big part** in Ancient Egyptian **daily life**. Most clothing was made out of **white linen**. **Cloth** only became common in the **1st century A.D.** **Noblemen** wore a **wraparound skirt** called a **kilt** and a **top with a design of roses**. **Upper class women** wore **dresses** with a **shawl** and **shoulder straps**. **Lower class men and women** wore **garments** with **not much design** as the clothing was made with **less expensive linen/cloth** while being **much simpler**. Colors most used were **red, blue, gold, and white**.



Culture - led by Madison P. Religion

It was believed by Ancient Egyptians that each deity influenced every aspect of human activity. Some of the main gods they worshiped were Re, Isis, Osiris, and Horus. Every city and town had a different god they worshiped with the major ones as well. Deities were pictured with the body of a human and the head of an animal. Temples did not have regular service so people would pray at home, Each temple was either the home of a deity or was dedicated to one. The temple that was built in honor of Amen-Re was the country's largest temple. It rose about 80 feet with elegant and colorful paintings that decorated the halls Egyptians believed that life could be enjoyed after death.

Hieroglyphics

The idea of Hieroglyphics originated from Mesopotamia in about 3000 B.C. It first started with about 800 different symbols, but by 300 B.C. that number jumped up to 6,000. Some of the earliest hieroglyphs contained literal representations of thoughts or ideas. There was also phonetic hieroglyphs which meant for each sound there was one character to go with it. Phonetic hieroglyphs only represented the sounds of consonants so it was never clear how to correctly pronounce words because Egyptians had never written vowels.

Food

Laborers ate two meals a day: a morning meal of bread, beer and often onions, and a more hearty dinner with boiled vegetables, meat and more bread and beer. Nobles ate well, with vegetables, meat and grains at every meal, plus wine and dairy products like butter and cheese. **Fish** was also a part of the ancient Egypt diet because of the source of protein. Priests and royalty ate even better. Tombs detail meals of honey-roasted wild gazelle, spit-roasted ducks, pomegranates and a berry-like fruit called jujubes with honey cakes for dessert. To top it all off, servant girls would circulate with jugs of wine to refill empty glasses the perfect end to an Egyptian banquet.

**Swedish
Fish**

BRAND

Social Structure - led by Alison K.

Social Classes

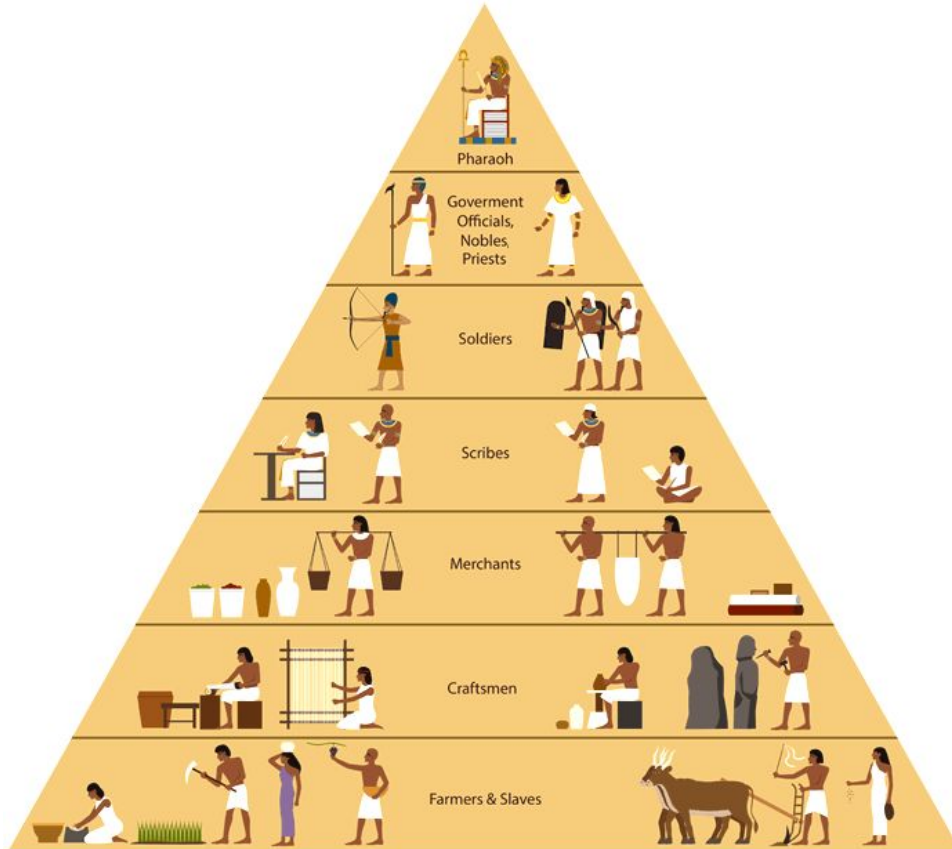
Ancient Egypt was made up of **three social groups** or classes, the upper class, middle class, and lower class.

The highest social class, the **upper class**, wore **white linen clothing** with jewelry, dark eye makeup, and lived in **2-3 story houses** constructed of wood, with gardens and pools. They were **mostly government officials, nobles, knights, priests**.

The **middle class** also wore white linen clothing but **did not wear extravagant clothing** like the upper class. They lived in **1-2 story houses**. They were **mostly merchants and artisans**.

The **lower class** wore **rougher linen clothing with thicker fibers** and consisted of **slaves and servants**.

Social Pyramid



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As you can see here, this is an **Ancient Egyptian social pyramid**. It has the peoples social status represented by their daily jobs.

This proves that an Egyptians **daily life represented their status and reflected their wealth and power.**

Women of Ancient Egypt

The women of Ancient Egypt **had rights equal to those of men.** Through the Egyptian law, women were allowed to own property, have contractual agreements, and even suffer crimes and punishments just like men.

Egyptian women spent most of their days doing **daily tasks and were expected to teach their daughters at home.** Women also had many other jobs.

