

# The Usborne Encyclopaedia of Ancient Egypt

## Phase 2 Day 7

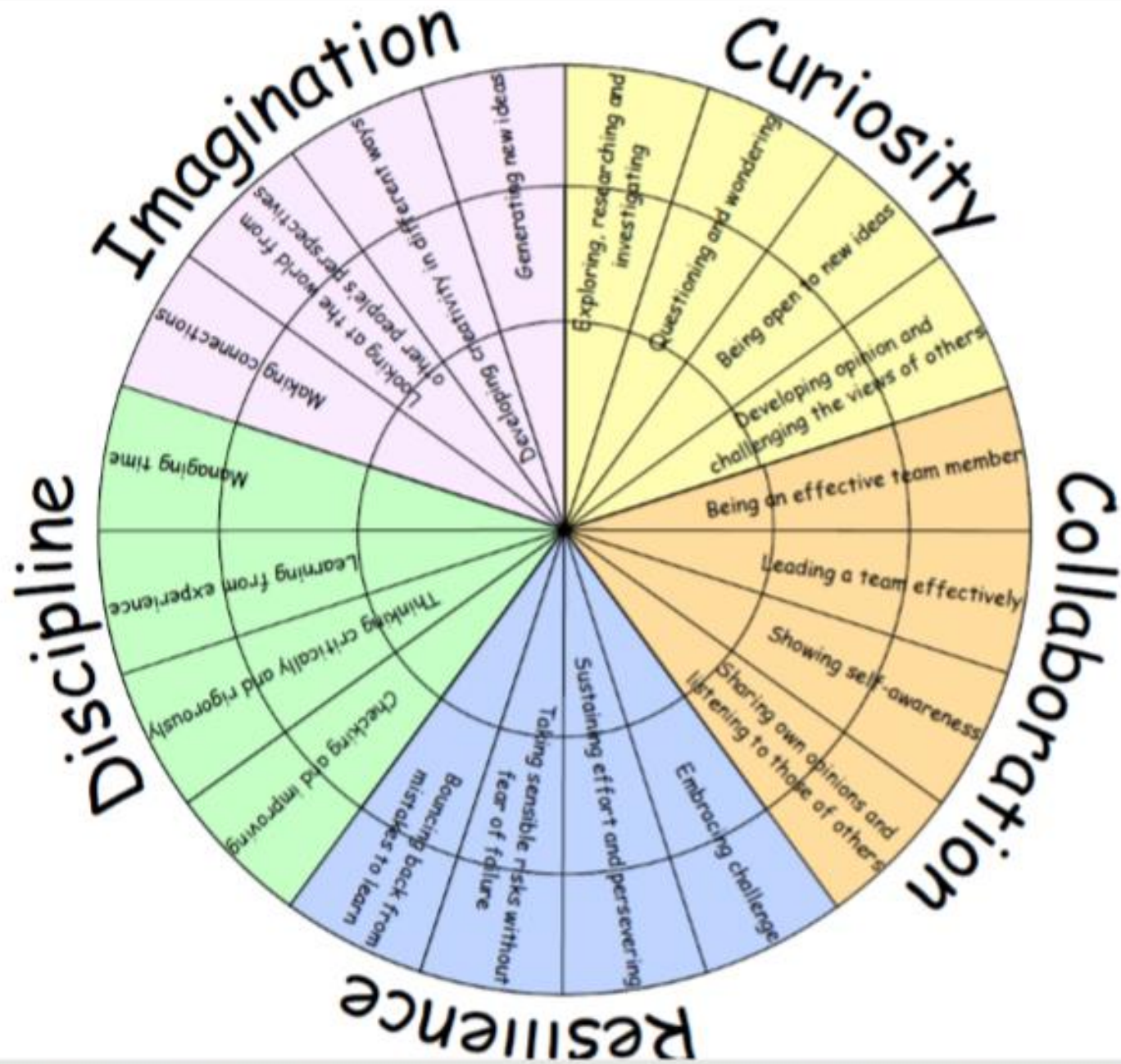
By Gill Harvey and Struan  
Reid

# LEARNING LADDER AND SKILLS:

- **Decoding-** I can use the context of the sentence to help me to read unfamiliar words.
- **Decoding** - I can use knowledge of root words, suffixes and prefixes to read/understand new words.
- **Decoding** - I can read out loud confidently, understanding how to use a range of punctuation.
- **Responder** - I understand why a writer has written a text.
- **Language Lover** - I can discuss/clarify the meanings of words, linking new meanings to known vocabulary.
- **Comprehender** - I can identify the features of different text types.
- **Comprehender** - I can use a range of organisational features to locate information, such as labels, diagrams and charts.

## SKILLS:

- Decoding the text
- Understanding the content
- Collaborating
- Improving



## LEARNING HABITS:

Which learning habits do you think we will need to use today?

# RECALL:

Why do we use **fronted adverbials**?

Where do we often find them in the sentence?

Can you think of a **fronted adverbial of place** that you could include for this report?

Afterwards, complete 1 minute speed read and record your time.

Are you getting quicker?

## EMBALMING AND MUMMIES

The embalming process, which prevented bodies from rotting away, was perfected over hundreds of years. If it was done properly, it was a lengthy, messy and gruesome job, but it did work.

### THE NEW KINGDOM METHOD

Mummification took 70 days altogether. First, a slit was made in the side of the body so that the 'viscera' – the intestines, lungs, liver and stomach – could be taken out. The viscera were embalmed separately and placed in four 'canopic jars' (see opposite). The heart was left in the body, because Egyptians believed it would be judged in the Next World.



The body is cut open and the internal organs taken out.

Next, the embalmers covered the body with a salt called natron, a preservative that also soaked up the moisture. After about 35–40 days, the body was completely dried out. Then it was stuffed with materials soaked in oils and resins to make it a normal shape again, and the slit was sewn up.



Embalmers covering the body with natron.

The body now had to be wrapped in layers of linen, starting with the fingers and toes.

Many New Kingdom mummies are still in amazingly good condition today. After the New Kingdom, standards waned, but bodies were still mummified until beyond the time of the Ptolemies.

Jewels and amulets (charms) were placed between the layers, to protect the person in the next life, and each layer was covered in oils, resins and perfumes, too.



The wrapping of the mummy is almost finished.

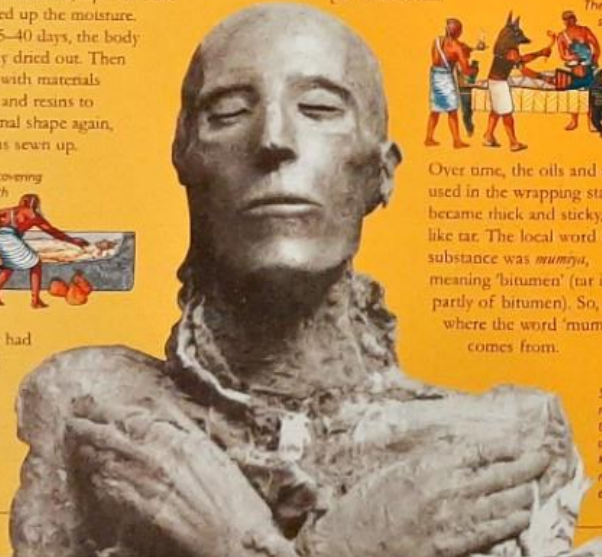
Finally, a mask was placed over the mummy's head. This was done by the chief embalmer, wearing the jackal mask of the embalming god Anubis. At last, the mummy was ready to be put in its coffin.



The chief embalmer says prayers over the completed mummy.

Over time, the oils and resins used in the wrapping stage became thick and sticky, almost like tar. The local word for this substance was *mumija*, meaning 'bitumen' (tar is made partly of bitumen). So, this is where the word 'mummy' comes from.

Seti I's amazing mummy shows the effectiveness of the New Kingdom method of embalming.



This is the mummy of Seti I, Ramesses II's grandson.



The mummy has been unwrapped. You can see how thin the arms and legs were when they were dried out.

Internet links: For links to websites where you can prepare a mummy for the website and see X-ray images of mummies, go to [www.ishorne.quicklinks.com](http://www.ishorne.quicklinks.com)

### CANOPIC JARS

There were usually four canopic jars with each mummy, containing the mummified liver, lungs, stomach and intestines. Each jar had a different stopper, in the form of one of the four sons of Horus, who protected the viscera.



These are typical New Kingdom canopic jars. Hapy, a baboon, protected the lungs. Qehesennu, a falcon, protected the intestines. Duamutef, a jackal, protected the stomach. Anesuy, a human, protected the liver.

### MUMMIES REVEAL THEIR SECRETS

In the 19th century, mummies were often unwrapped so that investigators could inspect them. Later, it was recognized that this practice damaged them badly, so it was stopped. Now, when scientists want to find out about a mummy, they put it into a CAT scanner, which sees through all the bandages. They can also carry out tests on tiny scraps of mummy flesh to find out

about their DNA, the unique blueprint that each of us has in our cells. For example, DNA tests have shown that Tutankhamun and the body found in KV55 (see page 28) were definitely related.



Modern technology: below, a wrapped mummy inside a CAT scanner. Right, images of mummies' faces, reconstructed by a computer.



# BLUEPRINT FOR THE NC REPORT:

STEP	CONTENT	FEATURES
Step 1	Think of a catchy title and three succinct subheadings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Large-sized, capital letters - <b>title</b>.</li><li>• Medium-sized, underlined, capital letters of <b>subheadings</b>.</li></ul>
Step 2	Add factual information beneath each subheading.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Factual information</b></li><li>• Historical vocabulary (brackets)</li><li>• Subject-specific language</li><li>• Third person (Tutankhamun, he, the body, his mummy)</li><li>• Fronted adverbials for sequence</li></ul>
Step 3	Present information in different ways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Detailed diagrams</li><li>• Short descriptive sentence for caption</li><li>• Words for labels</li><li>• Images (sketches, hieroglyphics, photographs)</li><li>• WOW fact box/ Did you know....?</li></ul>

So far, we have looked at the following features in this report:

- Title/heading
- Sub headings
- Page numbers
- Locate diagrams, photographs and captions.
- Third person
- Summarising information

# Developing skills

**EMBALMING AND MUMMIES**

The embalming process, which prevented bodies from rotting away, was perfected over hundreds of years. If it was done properly, it was a lengthy, messy and gruesome job, but it did work.

Many New Kingdom mummies are still in amazingly good condition today. After the New Kingdom, standards waned, but bodies were still mummified until beyond the time of the Ptolemies.

**THE NEW KINGDOM METHOD**

Mummification took 70 days altogether. First, a slit was made in the side of the body so that the 'viscera' – the intestines, lungs, liver and stomach – could be taken out. The viscera were embalmed separately and placed in four 'canopic jars' (see opposite). The heart was left in the body, because Egyptians believed it would be judged in the Next World.

Next, the embalmers covered the body with a salt called natron, a preservative that also soaked up the moisture. After about 35–40 days, the body was completely dried out. Then it was stuffed with materials soaked in oils and resins to make it a normal shape again, and the slit was sewn up.

The body now had to be wrapped in layers of linen, starting with the fingers and toes.

Jewels and amulets (charms) were placed between the layers, to protect the person in the next life, and each layer was covered in oils, resins and perfumes, too.

Finally, a mask was placed over the mummy's head. This was done by the chief embalmer, wearing the jackal mask of the embalming god Anubis. At last, the mummy was ready to be put in its coffin.

Over time, the oils and resins used in the wrapping stage became thick and sticky, almost like tar. The local word for this substance was *mumya*, meaning 'bitumen' (tar is made partly of bitumen). So, this is where the word 'mummy' comes from.

Internet links: For links to websites where you can prepare a mummy for the article and see 3-D images of mummies, go to [www.ansborne.quicklinks.com](http://www.ansborne.quicklinks.com)

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In the 19th century, mummies were often unwrapped so that investigators could inspect them. Later, it was recognized that this practice damaged them badly, so it was stopped. Now, when scientists want to find out about a mummy, they put it into a CAT scanner, which sees through all the bandages. They can also carry out tests on tiny scraps of mummy flesh to find out about their DNA, the unique blueprint that each of us has in our cells. For example, DNA tests have shown that Tutankhamun and the body found in KV55 (see page 28) were definitely related.

Modern technology: below, a wrapped mummy inside a CAT scanner. Right, images of mummies' faces, reconstructed by a computer.

This is the mummy of Seti II, Ramesses II's grandson.

Happy, a baboon, protected the lungs. Qemhuemut, a falcon, protected the intestines. Hensy, a human, protected the liver. Duamutef, a jackal, protected the stomach.

The wrapping of the mummy is almost finished.

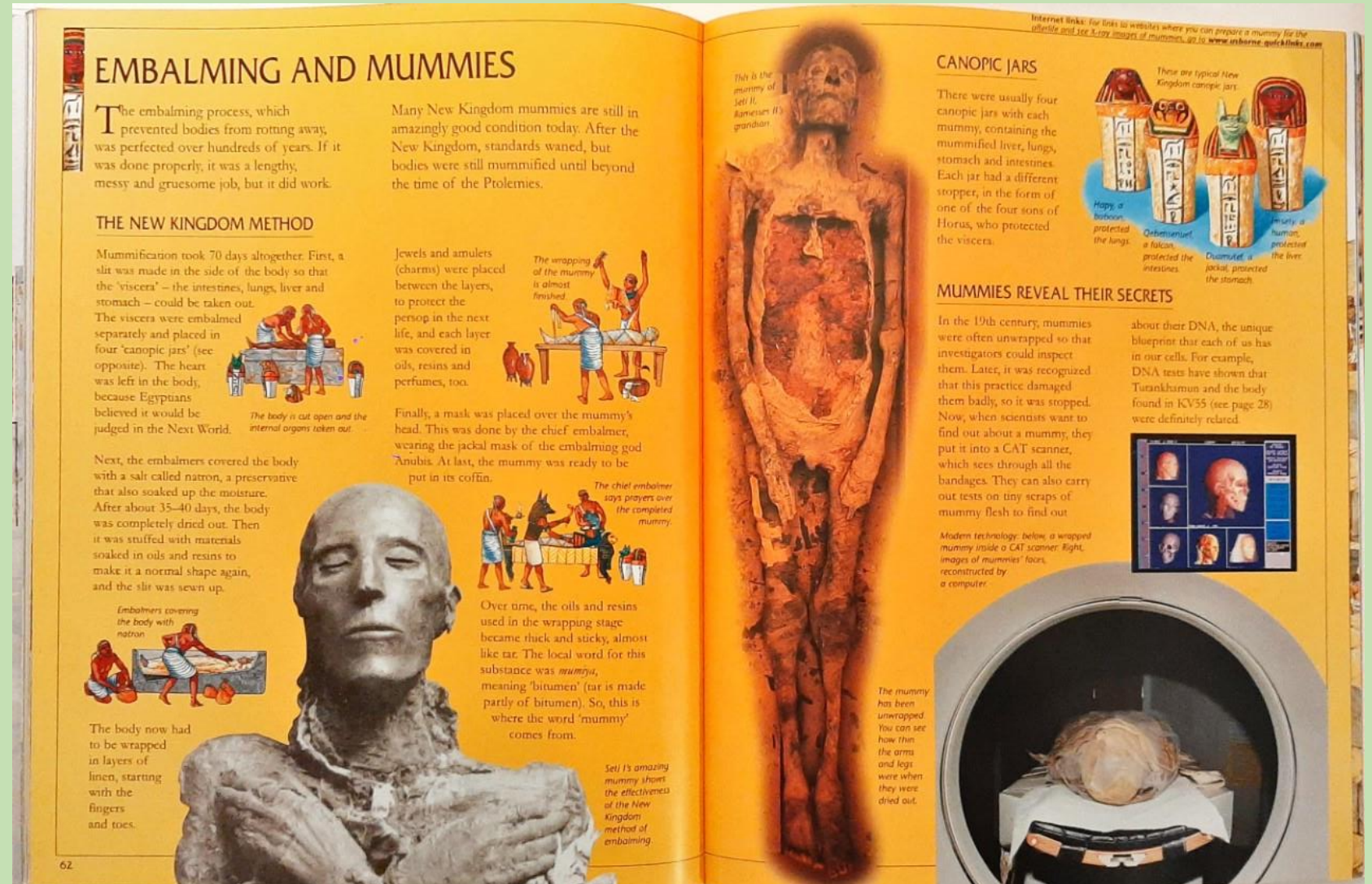
The chief embalmer says prayers over the completed mummy.

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Seti I's amazing mummy shows the effectiveness of the New Kingdom method of embalming.

The body is cut open and the internal organs taken out.

Embalmers covering the body with natron.



Today, we will focus on the **facts**. Look at the paragraph below.

# IDENTIFY

## THE NEW KINGDOM METHOD

Mummification took 70 days altogether. First, a slit was made in the side of the body so that the 'viscera' – the intestines, lungs, liver and stomach – could be taken out.

The viscera were embalmed separately and placed in four 'canopic jars' (see opposite). The heart was left in the body, because Egyptians believed it would be judged in the Next World.



*The body is cut open and the internal organs taken out.*

### Sub heading – The New Kingdom Method

The information below the sub heading contains **facts** about the new method of mummification.

- Mummification took 70 days - **FACT**.
- 'viscera' were embalmed separately - **FACT**.
- They were placed in four canopic jars **FACT**.
- The heart was left in the body - **FACT**.
- Egyptians believed it would be judged in the Next world - **FACT**.

# IDENTIFY

Look at this paragraph. What is the subheading? List all the important facts

Over time, the oils and resin used in the wrapping stage became thick and sticky, almost like tar. The local word for this substance was *momiya*, meaning 'bitumen' (tar is made partly of bitumen). So, this is where the word 'mummy' comes from.

Identify the **three** key facts in this paragraph. You will need to summarise each fact.

## FACTS

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



# EXAMINE

Finally, a mask was placed over the mummy's head. This was done by the chief embalmer, wearing the jackal mask of the embalming god Anubis. At last, the mummy was ready to be put in the coffin.

The embalming process, which prevented bodies from rotting away, was perfected over hundreds of years. If it was done properly, it was a lengthy, messy and gruesome job but it worked.

The **facts** tell us what is happening in the paragraph.

They can be written using long and short sentences. It is often written in the third person ( a mask).

1. What are the important facts in this extract?
2. True or false. The facts are written using only short sentences.

# PRACTISE

Using the sentence starters below, write three sentences to explain the picture below and why they are doing it.

Subheading \_\_\_\_\_

1. Four canopic jars were used to ...
2. The jars were placed.....
3. Each jar was different because...
4. The Egyptians believed that ...
5. The heart was left in the body because....



Using only the fact below, can you guess what the object is?

APPLY THE FEATURE

This \_\_\_\_\_ was once owned by Tutankhamun.

It was supported by pieces of wood which had been bent into the required shape.

It was covered in thin layers of precious gold.

It could only go as fast as the horses.

It had two wooden wheels, which made it very light and manoeuvrable.



Now it's your turn.

Choose one or more object below and write 3-4 facts about it.

- What is it?
- How old is it? - guess
- What is it made out of and why?
- Who would have used it and why?
- Why was this process important?

## APPLY THE FEATURE



Your own choice

