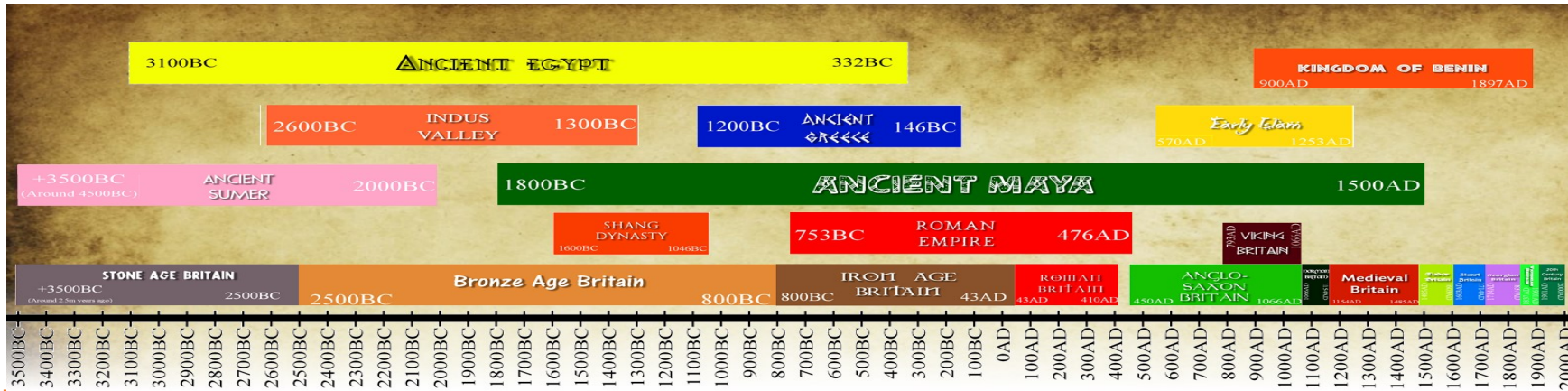


ANCIENT CIVILISATION



Cleopatra VII was not Egyptian but Greek. At first, women could not rule alone, so she ruled with her father, then her brother. Finally she became sole ruler and pharaoh of Egypt around 47BC.

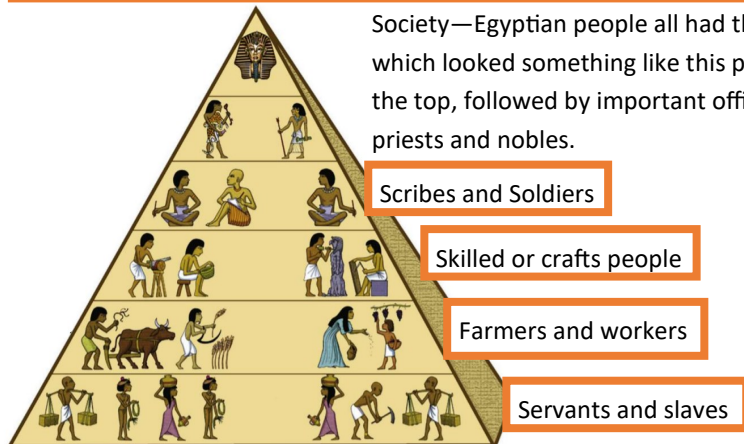


The Egyptian civilisation began towards the end of the Stone Age period of British history, with the reign of Egypt's first king, Narmer. It ended when Cleopatra VII died in 30BC.



The River Nile was very important to the Egyptians. It provided water for drinking and for crops as well as to travel on. Every year, it flooded, leaving behind silt that enriched the soil for growing crops. The river was also used to irrigate fields in other areas.

There is a debate over whether the Nile is the longest river in the world or the Amazon in South America! It actually flows through 11 countries.



Society—Egyptian people all had their own place in society, which looked something like this picture. The Pharaoh is at the top, followed by important officials called Viziers, priests and nobles.

Scribes and Soldiers

Skilled or crafts people

Farmers and workers

Servants and slaves

Ancient— Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.

Burial— The action or practice of burying a dead body.

Desert— An environment where there is little or no rainfall.

Invention— The action of inventing something, typically a process or device.

Irrigation— The supply of water to land or crops to help growth.

Language— Method of human communication; words, images, writing, speech

Mechanism— A system or parts working together in a machine.

Reign— A period of rule of a monarch (King or Queen)

Ritual— A religious ceremony with a series of actions.

River— A large, natural stream of water flowing in a channel to the sea, a lake or other river.

Sculpture— The art of making a 2D or 3D form especially by carving stone or wood or by casting metal or plaster.

Tomb—A large vault, typically underground, for burying the dead.

Pyramids

The pyramids were the tombs that were built for the Pharaohs. The size showed the importance of the person who was buried in it. The ancient Egyptians believed that if a person was mummified that they would live forever, so they build these tombs to keep their bodies.

Timeline

3500 BC	Early settlers in the Nile valley.
3100 BC	Hieroglyphic script developed.
2700 BC	First stone pyramid built.
2600 BC	Pyramids of Giza built.
1400 BC	Tutankhamun became Pharaoh.
1200 BC	The Trojan war.
776 BC	The first Olympic games were staged.
146 BC	Greece became part of the Roman empire.