

Directions: Highlight the answer in the text on the left before answering the questions on the right.

The people of Egypt had many gods & goddesses who, they believed, ruled their lives. These gods often took on strange forms & most had the head of an animal, but the body of a human. Animals who frequented the Nile River often became part of the god images themselves. These included hippopotamus, wild dogs, cats, ibex & birds of prey.

The most popular Egyptian god was **Osiris**. Rich Egyptians spent much time & money preparing for death. Yet, the Egyptians were *not* a gloomy or **melancholy** people. They believed strongly in "life after death." The **afterlife**, as they called it, would be a happy one, just as life on Earth had been. And, according to Egyptians, Osiris was the god who had made life after death *possible*.

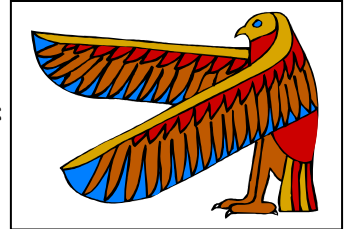
The Egyptians believed that Osiris had once ruled Egypt as a king *in human form*. Osiris had taught them to plant food & made them civilized. But Osiris had a brother **Seth** (boo hiss) who was jealous of him. *To seek revenge*, Seth cut Osiris up into 14 pieces & scattered them into the **Nile River**.

Osiris had a sister, **Isis**, who loved him & was also married to him ~ which was the custom of Egyptians. She asked **Horus**, their falcon-headed son, to assist her in searching for the pieces of Osiris in the Nile River. When they found them all, she sat down by the river & wept for her husband & brother. According to the legend, the sun god, **Ra** (or Re) heard her crying. He took pity on Isis & sent down a god from the heavens to help her. This god had the head of a jackal & was named **Anubis**. Together they fitted the pieces of Osiris together & wrapped his body in **linen** bandages. And then they prayed. Soon Osiris rose from the dead & became king in the next world.

The Egyptians believed that they, too, *could rise from the dead* IF their bodies were treated in the same manner. This process was called **mummification**.

Describe what Egyptian gods & goddesses looked like? _____

Some animal images included:



Another word for "life after death" is _____.

_____ (who?) was **responsible** for making this "life after death" possible.

Osiris had *once* been:

- a. an animal
- b. a king
- c. a human
- d. both b & c
- e. all the above
- f. none of the above

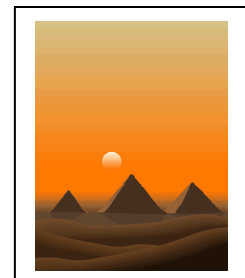
What did **Seth** *do* to Osiris, *in jealousy*?

Osiris was *married to* his sister _____.

_____ assisted Isis in finding the pieces of **Osiris**.

Describe their son:

Ra (➔) was the _____.



Isis & (Nile / Anubis / Ra) ← circle 1) *put* **Osiris together** again with _____ bandages for the **afterlife**.

In order to rise from the dead, your **body** had to be *treated to* a process called _____.

So, how was an Egyptian mummy actually made? First, the body & brain was emptied of its organs ~ the lungs, intestines, liver, & stomach. The brain then was pulled out through the nose & *thrown away!* The dead body was now treated with **natron** or salt. Then it was treated with unguents (oils.) Finally, it was completely wrapped in layers of linen bandages to preserve it in a process called **mummification**.

After mummification was complete a funeral took place. The family of the deceased person wept, & priests said prayers. At last, the mummy was put inside a coffin called a **sarcophagus** & placed inside a tomb. For the royal family, this tomb was often inside a grand pyramid. Food, clothing, wine, furniture & other personal possessions were also put inside with him/her to assist in the next life.

Only wealthy Egyptians could afford to be buried in this way. But even poor Egyptians prepared themselves for the afterlife. They were usually wrapped in rough white cloth. Then they were buried in sand graves in the desert with scraps of food & tools.

Osiris was thought to be the god who brought the dead to life. The Egyptians believed that he gave a new life not only to people, but to the land as well. How did Osiris make the land come alive? During the summer, Egypt was so dry that nothing could grow in the soil. Even the sides of the Nile were bare...the land was dead. Late in the summer, the Nile would begin to rise & *finally overflow*. This was called **inundation**. The Egyptians believed that the tears of Isis crying for her beloved Osiris made the river flood. By November, the flood waters had receded & flowed back into the Nile. But now the sides of the river were wet with rich mud called **silt** again. This was the time to plant!

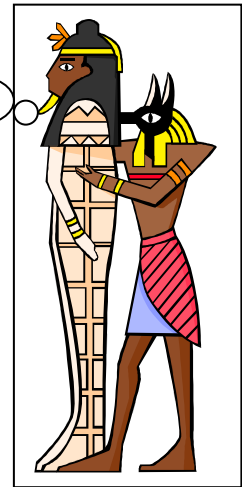
The story of Osiris gave the Egyptians hope. It gave them hope that each year food like wheat & barley would grow again along the Nile. This process of flooding, planting, & harvesting gave them hope of everlasting life after death.

In mummification, Egyptians **used salt** called

- a. sand
- b. unguents
- c. natron
- d. oils

What was **mummification**?

It's a wrap!



Another word (synonym) for **sarcophagus** is (pyramid / tomb / coffin ← circle 1).

What did Egyptians include in tombs to provide for people in their afterlife?



Who is **credited with bringing the dead back to life**?

- a. Ra
- b. Seth
- c. Anubis
- d. Osiris

When the Nile River rose & overflowed its banks, they called it _____.

Silt is described as _____.



The most important crops **grown** in Egypt included _____ & _____.