Name:	Period:	Date:	

Shapes & Symbols

Shape is an element of art. There are two kinds of shapes, geometric and organic.

Geometric Shapes

Geometric shapes are shapes that have names. These are they shapes you use in math class. These shapes can be seen in art, as well. We used geometric shapes to create our facial features (our eyes are ovals or ellipses.)

Organic Shapes

Organic shapes are shapes that DO NOT have names. These shapes can also be seen in art. We used a lot of organic shapes to create our facial features (lips, nose, ears).

Drawing Skill

When you critically look at an object you want to draw, you will see some basic geometric and organic shapes it can be broken into. Using proportion to place these geometric shapes a correct distance away from each other will allow you to draw objects much easier.

Symbols in Art

Symbols are things used to represent something else. Symbols are often used in art. For example, Ancient Egyptians used symbols (like animals and swirly lines) to represent their alphabet. The Ancient Egyptian alphabet is called **Hieroglyphics**.

List some other symbols below

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Egypt & Carving

Egypt came into being around 3000 BC. They called their ruler the Pharaoh (like our modern day President in the United States). The first capital of Egypt was Memphis. Sound familiar?



The Old Kingdom



The Old Kingdom of Egypt lasted from about 2700 to 2200 BC. Most of the art from this time comes from tombs or the walls of tombs. The pictures are the tombs of Pharaoh Sesostris (she-SOSS-triss) and

Pharoh Ti. One shows a man making offerings, surrounded by hieroglyphic writing, the other is a man working in a field of grain. The art was CARVED into the tombs. Carving is when you cut into or shape a solid material. In the Old Kingdom, sculptors chipped away all the



background limestone and left only the man and the writing. That is a lot of work!

The New Kingdom



Around 1200 BC, Egyptian artists decided to change how their artwork looked. They wanted to create big and impressive works, even if the details were not so fine. Their pictures and hieroglyphics began to be carved into the stone, instead of the background being cut away as they were during the Old Kingdom.

Cartouches

A cartouche was an oval circle with a name written in it, like a nameplate. Cartouches were attached to the tombs

of kings and queens at first, but then regular people started hiring artists to create them for their coffins. Egyptians believed that you had to have your name written down somewhere so you would not disappear when you died. By attaching a carouche to their coffin, people made sure their name was written down in one place at least.





Dehydrated Mummy

mummy in muslin



Open sarcophagus (with mummy inside)

inside of Ancient Egyptian tomb where mummies were buried



outside of ancient Egyptian tomb where mummies were buried



new kingdom cartouche with sharp lines and geometric and organic shapes

Egyptian Mummies



It was very important to ancient Egyptian religious beliefs that the human body was preserved. A method of artificial preservation, called mummification was developed by the ancient Egyptians. Mummification was a complicated and lengthy process which lasted up to 70 days.

What are mummies?

A mummy is the body of a person (or an animal) that has been preserved after death.

Who were the mummies?

They were any Pharaohs (Kings) or Egyptians who could afford to pay for the expensive process of preserving their bodies for the afterlife.

Why did the Egyptians make mummies?

The Egyptians believed in life after death. They believed that they had to perserve their bodies so they could use them in the afterlife.

What is the afterlife?

The Egyptians believed that when they died, they would make a journey to another world where they would lead a new life. They would need all the things they had used when they were alive, so their families would put those things in their graves. Egyptians paid vast amounts of money to have their bodies properly preserved. Egyptians who were poor were buried in the sand whilst the rich ones were buried in a tomb.

What was the name of the process the Egyptians used to preserve their bodies?

It was called mummification.

How were mummies made?

It took a very long time, from start to finish, it took about 70 days to embalm a body. The priest in charge would wear the mask of a jackal representing the god Anubis.

- 1. The body was washed and purified.
- 2. Organs were removed.
- 3. The body was filled with stuffing.
- 4. The body was dried by covering it with a substance called natron*. This substance absorbed all the moisture from the body.
- 5. After 40 50 days the stuffing was removed and replaced with linen or sawdust.

- 6. The body was wrapped in strands of linen and covered in a sheet called a shroud.
- 7. The body was placed in a stone coffin called a sarcophagus.

The mummy was now ready for its journey to the afterlife.

*What is natron?

Natron is a natural salt, composed of sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate with traces of sodium chloride and sodium sulfate. It was used by the ancient egyptians to dry out the bodies.

Who was the god of mummification?

Anubis was the god of mummification. He had a human body and the head of a jackal. His job was to prepare the bodies of the dead to be received by Osiris.

What objects did they put in Egyptian Tombs?

Ancient Egyptians were buried with their belongings and the tomb walls were painted with scenes from the dead persons life. The objects included furniture, games and even food was placed in the tombs for the long After Life journey!

What are canopic jars?

Canopic Jars were used by ancient Egyptians to hold mummified remains.

Where were Egyptians who were poor buried?

The poor Egyptians were buried in the sand. Only the rich ones were buried in a tomb

Where were the pharaohs buried?

In the Old and Middle Kingdoms (2628-1638 BC), Egyptian kings were buried in pyramids. About 50 royal pyramids have survived. They were built on the desert edge, west of the ancient capital of Memphis.

What are pyramids?

The pyramids are the stone tombs of Egypt's kings - the Pharaohs. Find out more about pyramids

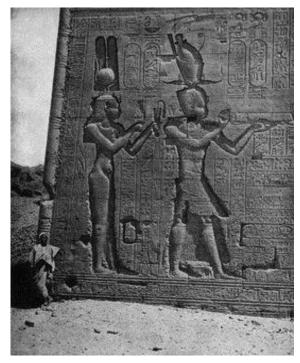
Why did the Ancient Egyptians build pyramids?

The Egyptians believed that if the pharaoh's body could be mummified after death the pharaoh would live forever. The tombs were designed to protect the buried Pharaoh's body and his belongings.











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