



PART 3: PREPARING FOR THE AFTERLIFE

The Duat : Mummification

A fundamental ancient Egyptian belief was that there was life after death. Today’s myth will explore Egyptian beliefs about the Duat or the Underworld.

The ancient Egyptians believed that once they had passed away, their soul would travel down to the Duat and they would continue to live on. Once in the afterlife, their soul needed a body so the ancient Egyptians went to great lengths to preserve the bodies of the dead. This process was called mummification.

WHEN REMOVING THE INTERNAL ORGANS, THE BRAIN WAS PULLED OUT THROUGH THE NOSE!

Firstly, the internal organs were removed.

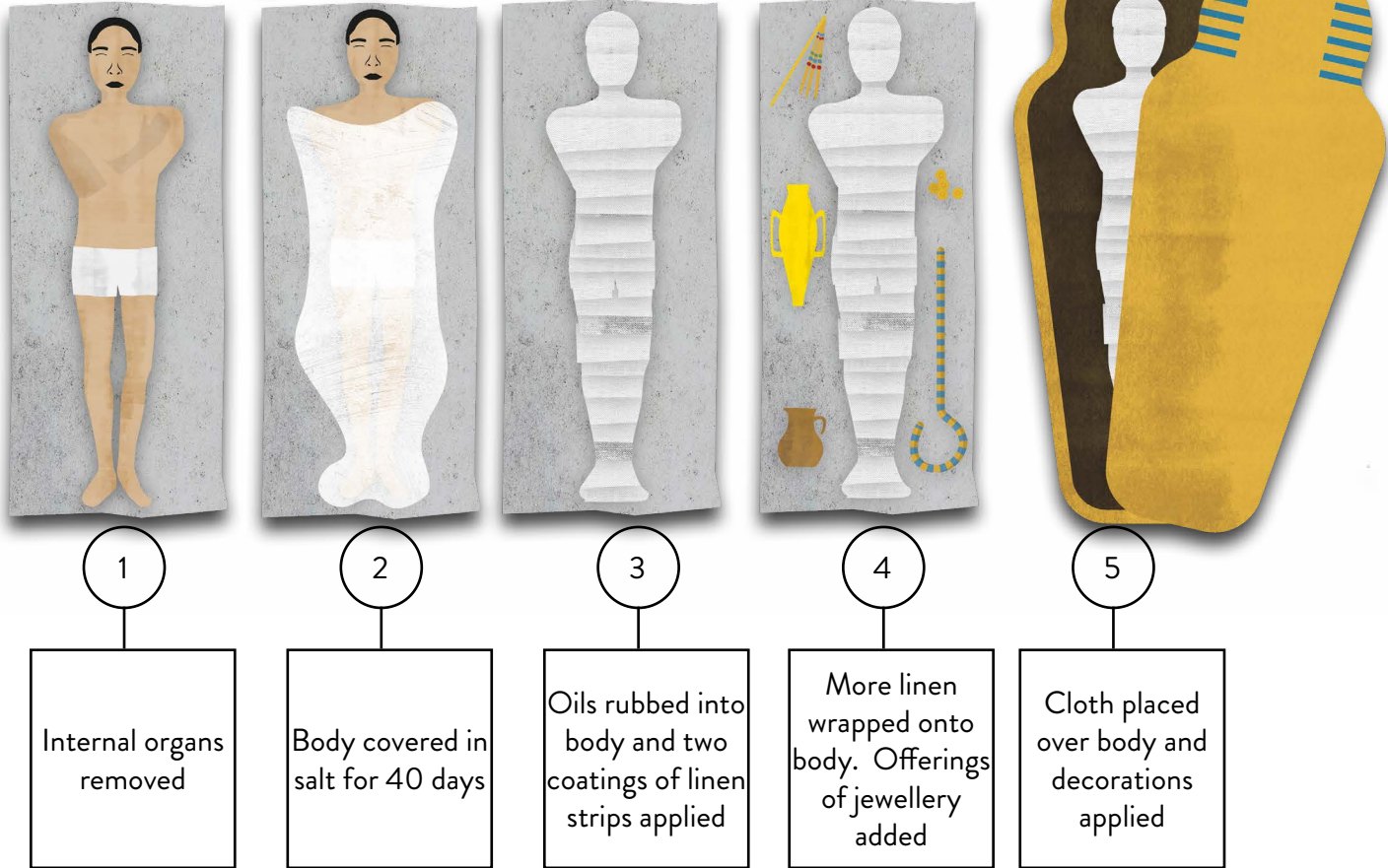
Next, the body was washed and covered in salt for about 40 days to eliminate moisture.

Following this, perfumed oils were rubbed on the body. Two coatings of linen strips were then glued to the body.

Sometimes pouches with jewellery inside were placed on the mummy’s chest. This was thought to be a religious offering.

Long linen strips secured the wrappings and a portrait picture of the deceased was placed on the head.

Finally, a linen cloth was placed over the mummy and this was decorated with elaborate colours and symbols of protection and rebirth.



PART5: EGYPTIAN TOMB OFFERINGS



Elaborate wall decorations and expensive jewellery found within Egyptian tombs.

The Duat: Offerings from the world of the living

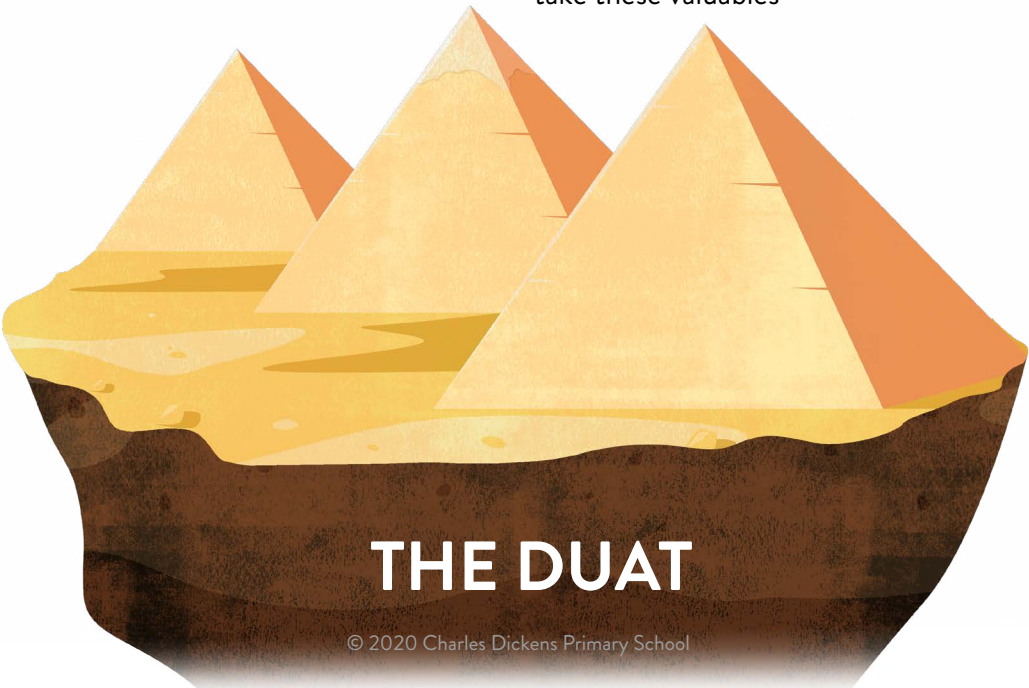
The ancient Egyptians believed that life in the Duat was better than life on earth.

In the Duat, there was no sadness, pain or anger. Here, they could live in peace amongst the souls of their ancestors who had died before them. They could eat, drink, talk and work in the field of reeds.

If they were to be truly happy in the afterlife, however, the ancient Egyptians believed that they must be well-equipped with all of the items that they had needed in order to live comfortably on earth.

For this reason, wealthy Egyptians such as scribes, merchants and Pharaohs were often buried with personal possessions such as furniture and jewellery.

The more elaborate the possessions, the more likely they would be a target for tomb robbers who wished to take these valuables





HORUS THE AVENGER

Listen to your teacher reading 'Horus the Avenger'. Then, answer the following questions:

1. Has the goddess Isis been presented differently in this myth? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

2. Consider Horus's time in the Duat. What does he do there? How does this demonstrate ancient Egyptian belief about the dead in the Underworld?

ASSESSMENT



LESSONS ONE AND TWO: THE RIVER NILE: FLOODING AND FERTILISATION



Papyrus



Flax Seeds



Wheat

How beneficial was the River Nile in both building and sustaining the ancient Egyptian civilisation? You may want to consider how it aided crop growth and provided trade opportunities for ancient Egyptian merchants.

The River Nile was beneficial for crop growth because _____

Egyptians grew _____ on the banks of the River Nile.

These crops were used for
