

Reading (20 %)

(Bloque 3 Comprensión escrita: 1. Identificar instrucciones; 5. Captar las ideas principales de textos periodísticos; Bloque 4 Producción escrita: 2. Escribir notas y mensajes con comentarios o indicaciones)

How ancient Egyptians helped shape the world

Egypt is famous for its giant pyramids, but ancient Egyptians were also great inventors.

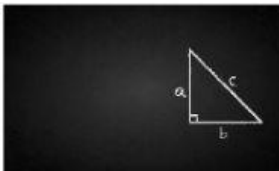
Did you know that the ancient Egyptians invented the solar calendar? They made a calendar with 365 days, 12 months and three seasons. It had one problem though: it didn't include a leap year (February with 29 days) and so it became incorrect.



Ancient Egyptians also had clocks - two types! A water clock measured time by how fast water fills or empties a container, so they could tell the time at night. The oldest example of a water clock comes from Egypt. The second clock was a shadow clock where a pillar makes a shadow from the sunlight. As the position of the sun changes, the shadow moves around the clock. In fact, a miniature version of this clock was the first clock that was possible to take from one place to another with you - but you couldn't wear it on your wrist; it was over 30 cm long!



The ancient Egyptians were one of the first cultures to move from writing in pictures to using an early type of alphabet. They used to write on papyrus, a thick paper which they made from plants. In 2012, archaeologists found papyrus documents that describe the building of the giant pyramids. These are the oldest papyrus ever discovered. Papyrus was cheap and easy to produce, and they also used it to make tables, clothes and even shoes from it.



The ancient Egyptians were quite advanced in their knowledge of maths and geometry. Their knowledge helped them to build the pyramids!

1 Read the article. Are the sentences T (true), F (false) or is there NI (no information)?

TRUE FALSE NO INFORMATION

- 1 Ancient Egypt is most famous for its inventions.
- 2 Their calendar had the same number of months as now.
- 3 The ancient Egyptian calendar was very accurate.
- 4 The water clocks were very popular.
- 5 The shadow clocks were good on a cloudy day.

2 Read the article and complete the sentences (maximum four words).

1 The smaller style of the shadow clock was different because you could

_____.

2 Ancient Egyptians were one of the earliest societies to write _____.

3 The oldest papyrus papers discovered had information about _____.

4 Objects like _____, _____, _____ were created with papyrus.

5 The ancient Egyptians' understanding of _____ and _____ helped them construct the pyramids.