

Go back to the text

PET 1 Comprehension

For each question, mark the letter next to the correct answer – A, B, C or D.

- 1 Egyptian pharaohs were buried with fantastic treasures because
 - A ☐ they needed them for their voyages after their death.
 - B ☐ they did not want robbers to steal them.
 - C ☐ they did not want their enemies to have them after their death.
 - D ☐ they knew that terrible curses would protect them.
- 2 King Tut's tomb is particularly famous because
 - A ☐ he was not buried in a pyramid.
 - B ☐ it is one of the oldest in Egypt.
 - C ☐ he was buried with incredibly precious treasures.
 - D ☐ it was one of the few to be discovered with its treasure complete.
- 3 When did European archaeologists first become interested in ancient Egypt?
 - A ☐ in the 1600s
 - B ☐ in the 1700s
 - C ☐ in the 1800s
 - D ☐ in the 1900s
- 4 How did Carter and his workers first discover the tomb?
 - A ☐ They followed Carter's canary.
 - B ☐ They found steps that led to it.
 - C ☐ Reis Ahmed told him where it was.
 - D ☐ They discovered an ancient door that had never been opened before.
- 5 When Carter found King Tut's tomb, he did not go in immediately because
 - A ☐ he was frightened by what the servant said about the canary.
 - B ☐ he did not believe that it was really King Tut's tomb.
 - C ☐ he wanted Lord Carnarvon to give him more money first.
 - D ☐ he wanted Lord Carnarvon to be there when they opened it.
- 6 How did Lord Carnarvon die?
 - A ☐ from an infected insect bite
 - B ☐ from a cobra bite
 - C ☐ from fright
 - D ☐ from a mysterious virus or bacteria

'Strange things have happened more recently'

We use the **Past Simple** to talk about events at a definite point of time in the past. It is the tense we use the most when we tell a story.

*Carter **watched** his workers make a hole... Carter **entered** the tomb... Behind him Lord Carnarvon **asked**...*

We use the **Present Perfect** when we talk about a period that continues up to the present. We often use it with the adverbs *recently, already, always, yet, just, ever and never*.

*I've **never been** to Egypt. People **have always wanted** to know more about mummies. I **have been** on trips on the Nile twice in my life.*

2 Present Perfect and Past Simple

Read the article about mummies, and put the infinitives in brackets in the Past Simple or Present Perfect according to the context.

Ever since ancient times people a. (be) *have been* fascinated by Egyptian mummies. The ancient Greek historian Herodotus (484-425 BC) b. (visit) *visited* Egypt and then c. (write) a long description of them. From the 1200s to the 1600s, Europeans d. (think) that mummies had special healing powers. They e. (cut) them up into tiny pieces and f. (use) them as medicine. This is strange, but Europeans g. (do) even stranger things with mummies. For example, in Victorian England 'mummy unwrappings' h. (be) popular entertainment. People i. (come) and j. (watch) somebody take the cloth off a mummy. Recently though, scientists k. (carry out) more serious investigations, and they l. (use) many sophisticated technologies such as CAT scans, three-dimensional X-ray images produced with a computer. They m. (examine) the DNA of ancient Egyptian mummies. This tells us more about their age, sex and cause of death. In 1997 people n. (discover) a huge number of mummies at the Bahariya Oasis near Cairo. According to experts, there may be 10,000 mummies buried there. Since their discovery many scientists o. (do) much important research there, but the Egyptians p. (build) many facilities for tourists too. Even now, real mummies are still popular entertainment.