

Monday 25th January 2021

Literacy – Find the Shape

- Watch the explanation video on Seesaw Activities.
- Read the example biography below, and look carefully at the shapes and the key.

Your Task:

Can you cut out the shapes and stick them next to the parts of the Cleopatra biography that they represent?

Use the last page to help you if you get stuck!

CLEOPATRA

Clever crown, determined deity, famous female

In 332BC, Ancient Egypt was conquered by a Greek, Alexander the Great. When this Greek champion died, his kingdom was divided among his generals – creating the Ptolemaic Dynasty, which ruled over Egypt for almost 300 years (expanding Egypt’s control and creating a prosperous nation). On the death of Pharaoh Ptolemy XII. His daughter, Cleopatra, married Ptolemy XIII and co-ruled Egypt.

Marry my brother? Eww!

However, Cleopatra’s husband, Ptolemy XIII, was in fact, her younger brother. Egyptians believed that as pharaohs were the children of the gods, they should follow the gods and marry their close relatives – this would keep the blood line pure.

It’s mine – give it back!

As the older sibling, Cleopatra took control of the country. Nevertheless, her brother soon developed a thirst for power taking over the throne and forcing Cleopatra out.

Like the sun’s trajectory across the desert skies, this smart sovereign wasn’t going to be halted, and in 48BC, she snuck herself into the royal palace to convince the visiting Roman General, Julius Caesar, to help her take back Egypt. “Mr Caesar, your armies are so impressive and you look so strong and

handsome, it wouldn't be too much trouble to help me win Egypt back, would it?"

Take that bro!

Julius Caesar and Cleopatra fell in love and together defeated her brother, Ptolemy XIII, at the Battle of the Nile. Cleopatra was pharaoh again. "Much better, it's so very annoying when my brother takes things without asking."

Cleopatra became one of the most awesome pharaohs of Egypt. With her flair for smart-thinking, she made Egypt a prosperous nation. Embracing the economy not floristry, she built up trade with multiple Arab nations, making a lot of money for her people. In her lifetime, it is thought that she learned to speak more than seven different languages: Egyptian, Greek, Latin and many more. "It's definitely easier to barter if you know the language, isn't it?"

Although she was Greek, Cleopatra embraced Egyptian culture, worshipping the traditional Egyptian gods. This made her one of the most popular pharaohs in history.

An unhappy ending.

When Julius Caesar died, Cleopatra wanted their son, Caesarion, to become pharaoh. She met and fell in love with Roman ruler Mark Anthony to help her achieve this. Together, they would need to defeat Octavian, the legal heir to Julius Caesar. Unluckily, their armies were beaten and Mark Anthony, on hearing of the death of Cleopatra, killed himself. Cleopatra (who was actually not dead), heard of Mark Anthony's death and is thought to have taken her own life too. Cleopatra became the last pharaoh of Egypt.

Did Cleopatra really take her own life? Or did she escape only to be killed later by Octavian? Sadly, we will never know what really happened, but the story of Cleopatra and her prudence make her the most famous pharaoh of Egypt.

Q: Did anyone else become pharaoh after that?

A: No, once Octavian (who later changed his name to Augustus) took over, Egypt became part of the Roman Empire. Although little changed in Egypt's culture and it brought the Roman's great wealth through trade.

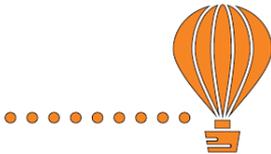
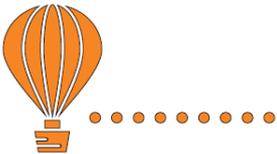
Q: What happened to Cleopatra's son?

A: Not much – once Cleopatra had committed suicide, Octavian executed her son.

Q: Did Cleopatra kill herself with a snake bite?

A: Cleopatra is often pictured with a snake, but snakes played a large part in Egyptian royal life. There is no evidence that Cleopatra was killed by a snake bite.

Biography



Q+A

Key:



Name



Subheading



Background context



Mindblowing information



Early in the journey



Arrived



Achievement



Death and legacy

Q+A

Questions and answers



Later in the journey



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