

alignments and significant even today, it shows they were outstanding in math. Later on, they passed this knowledge to Greece who also used it extensively in matters land. The Egyptians also invented methods of performing divisions and multiplications. Although we presently have different ways of doing the calculations, the Egyptians employed a computation method, which involved doubling of numbers, a technique which is still in use in modern-day computations. The invention of fractions by the Egyptians has also influenced modern life, and it is a method that is presently used extensively for calculation and divisions of land.

Commented [PH2]: How are they peculiar/significant?

Commented [PH3]: ?

Ancient Egyptian language has the second longest known history of any language and was written from c. 3200 BC to the middle ages. The phases of the language included the old Egyptian (c. 2600-2000BC), Middle Egyptian (c. 2000-1350BC), Late Egyptian (c. 1350-700BC), Demotic (c. 700BC-AD400) and Coptic (after c. 200CE)³. Ancient Egyptian was a synthetic language but evolved with time to become more analytic. Later, there was the development and replacement of the inflectional suffixes with prefixal definite and indefinite articles. There was also the replacement of the hieroglyphic, hieratic and demotic scripts in the 19th century with the more phonetic Coptic alphabet, which is currently used in the liturgy of the Egyptian Orthodox Church and the modern Egyptian Arabic. The phonetic alphabets, which we are using today, was an idea that was invented by the ancient Egyptians. The Semitic people within Egypt came up with a 22 letter alphabet that was created in line with the unilateral signs. The Egyptian alphabet spread to neighbors and eventually around the world, including to the Phoenicians. The Phoenicians made it their own, and it continued to spread worldwide. That has

Commented [PH4]: Some argue that it may in fact be older than cuneiform

Commented [PH5]: Assume a general audience – give an example to illustrate your point

³ Breasted, James Henry. *A history of Egypt*. Cambridge University Press, 2016.

influenced the modern life in the sense that the ancient Egyptian alphabets acted as the foundation of the alphabets that are used in the modern life.

The art of writing was an idea that was started by the ancient Egyptians, and it has massively influenced the modern life. They discovered papyrus, which was a massive step up from carving words into stones, which they did early in their years. It ensured there was ease of writing in addition to being lighter to carry around when compared to carrying stones. They discovered papyrus in 3000BC, and later, around 500BC, the papyrus spread and was used in West Asia and the Mediterranean⁴. During that time, it became valuable and was one of Egypt's most profitable exports since it was expensive, and Egypt was its only maker at the time. The Europeans were very inspired by this work and China would eventually invent paper in 100BC. Despite Egypt's invention of papyrus ~~falling~~ falling out of use over time, the world got the idea of moving from the stone tablets from the ancient Egyptians.

Commented [PH6]: Clay tablets more usual for normal writing in Mesopotamia, stones would have been very impractical for every day use but were used for religious texts, etc.

Modern medicine owes much of their skills to the ancient Egyptians. The most famous of the ancient Egyptian physician is Imhotep, who was the vizier and chief architect who started the art of medicine and was later worshipped as the god of medicine in Egypt. The ancient Egyptians started treating their people using herbs. Their medical problems came from their environment since they were living close to the Nile River, which despite the many benefits brought about malaria and debilitating schistosomiasis parasites that led to liver and intestinal damage. There was also the threat of dangerous animals from the river like the crocodiles and hippos. Due to the

Commented [PH7]: Mention Djoser, Steppe Pyramid

⁴ Moser, Stephanie. "Reconstructing Ancient Worlds: Reception Studies, Archaeological Representation and the Interpretation of Ancient Egypt." *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 22, no. 4 (2015): 1263-1308.

many health problems, the ancient Egyptians physicians came up and started treating the sick. For example, wounds from bites were treated via bandaging with raw meat and swabs soaked with honey to prevent infections from spreading. Additionally, they used opium to relieve pain.

By this time, they had already invented writing on papyrus, and they wrote their prescriptions on the papyrus, which was also used for future references. This invention influenced the modern life in the sense that people understand the importance of keeping records as they can be used for future references. The treatments affected how herbalists treated the sick and later doctors borrowed from the variety of medical documents that were written by the ancient Egyptian physicians.

Commented [PH8]: Already discussed above

Commented [PH9]: Possibly any reference to the bodies in the tomb at Giza that show evidence of medical treatment?

It is believed that the ancient Egyptians were the first builders as explained below. They erected tombs and temples, which were floored and roofed with timber boards. The concept of the master bedroom that is widely used today was first seen in ancient Egypt. Among the tools and techniques that were pioneered by the Egyptian, builders include glass making using silica sand, lime and soda⁵. The art later spread across the world via trade and conquer, inspiring the Romans to take up the craft. They also built mortar and cement, customized bricks, ropes made of animal hair, among others. Their concept of art and designs is widely used around the world today. The ancient Egyptians were also the inventors of the 354-day lunar calendar, which was made up of 12 months that correlated with the lunar cycle⁷. Their calendar was split into three

Commented [PH10]: Imhotep, the Steppe Pyramid of Saqqara

⁵ MacDonald, Sally, and Michael Rice, eds. *Consuming Ancient Egypt*. Routledge, 2016.

⁶ Kluckhohn, Clyde. *Mirror for man: The relation of anthropology to modern life*. Routledge, 2017.

⁷ Schweizer, Andreas. *The sungod's journey through the netherworld: Reading the ancient Egyptian Amduat*. Cornell University Press, 2017.

seasons, which reflected River Nile's natural cycle across the year. Before 30BC, there was an invention of a 365-day civil calendar that consisted of 12 lunar months of 30 days. That was still split into three seasons and five extra days at the end of the year. During the 30BC, the Romans added an extra day to every fourth year to come up with the basis of the calendar that is presently being used, which is known as the Julian Calendar.

Commented [PH11]: The current western calendar is the Gregorian Calendar – slightly revised version of the Julian

Ancient Egypt focused along the Nile River lower reaches, a place that is presently Egypt. The history of ancient Egypt occurred as a sequence of stable kingdoms, which were separated by intermediate periods that were characterized by relative instability. The kingdoms included; the old, the middle and the new kingdoms of the Early Bronze age, the middle bronze age and the late Bronze Age respectively.¹ The ancient Egyptians experienced considerable achievements that included quarrying, surveying, and techniques in construction, which supported the creation of monumental temples, pyramids among others. It left a legacy that continues to impact the modern life positively. The art and architecture that started in ancient Egypt were copied worldwide, and its antiquities carried off to many areas around the world. Furthermore, there has been a continued inspiration to the imaginations of travelers and writers across the globe for centuries due to the inventions by the ancient Egyptians. Ancient Egyptians were great innovators of inventions that are still in use today. This paper will discuss how the ancient Egyptians influenced the modern life.

The Egyptians were excellent at Mathematics, and their inventions concerning mathematics have significantly influenced the modern life. The first records of geometry were from them.² Their specialists in geometry used ropes for purposes of subdividing and calculating the area of different lands. For example, problems in the Moscow mathematical papyrus showed areas of land that were calculated using ropes. The construction of pyramids also required advanced knowledge of mathematics, and since the pyramids are perfect, that is, have peculiar

Commented [PH1]: Any more detail?

¹ Bozeman, Adda B. *Politics and culture in international history: from the ancient Near East to the opening of the modern age*. (Routledge, 2017). p. #.

² Eller, Jack David. *Cultural anthropology: global forces, local lives*. Routledge, 2016.