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CIVILIZATIONS PAST TO PRESENT

文明的进程

EGYPT

埃及

KEVIN SUPPLES (美) 著

H319.4:K

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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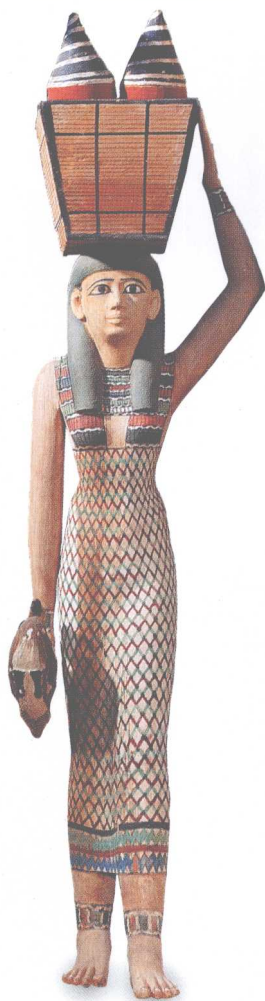
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INTRODUCTION

引言

Imagine¹ writing notes to your friends using pictures instead of words. Imagine having a monkey as a pet or having your head shaved² except for a single sidelock. You might have done some of these things if you had lived in ancient³ Egypt.

Egypt is a country in northeastern⁴ Africa. It is mostly desert—dry and hot. However, the longest river in the world, the Nile⁵, cuts through Egypt. Along the river are fertile⁶, green lands. From the air, the Nile looks like a long, snakelike curve⁷ of green surrounded⁸ by desert.

We'll visit the pyramids⁹, mysterious¹⁰ triangles¹¹ rising out of the desert. These huge monuments¹² were built to honor¹³ the pharaohs¹⁴, the rulers of ancient Egypt. No one really knows how the ancient people built the pyramids.

1. imagine	v.	想像
2. shave	v.	剃头
3. ancient	adj.	古代的
4. northeastern	adj.	东北部的
5. Nile		尼罗河
6. fertile	adj.	肥沃的; 富饶的
7. curve	n.	弯道; 曲线
8. surround	v.	环绕; 围绕
9. pyramid	n.	金字塔
10. mysterious	adj.	神秘的
11. triangle	n.	三角形的物体
12. monument	n.	纪念碑
13. honor	v.	纪念; 表示尊敬
14. pharaoh	n.	法老(古埃及君王称号)



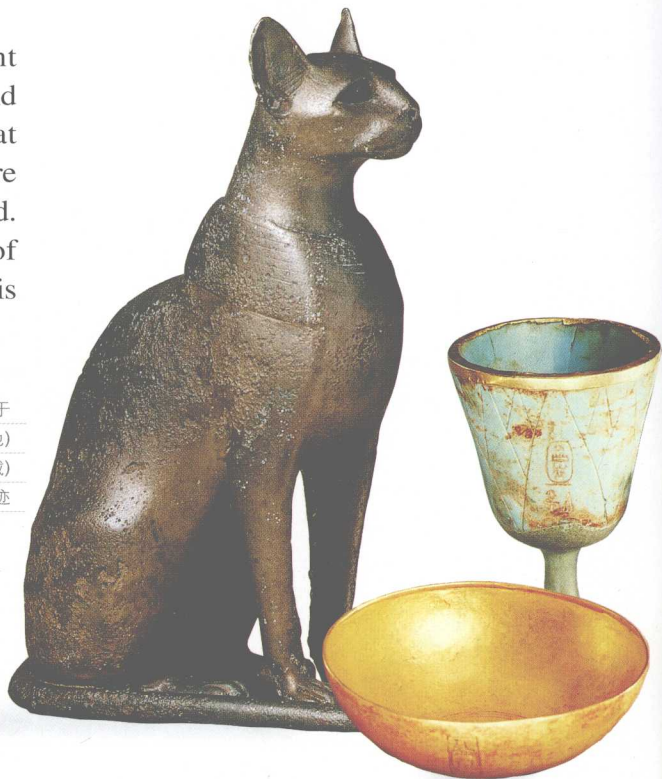
EGYPT: THEN AND NOW

埃及：历史与今天



The first map shows where ancient Egypt was located¹. You can also find some of the important places that you'll learn about in this book. Giza² is where three ancient Egyptian pyramids are located. Thebes³ is where you can see the ruins⁴ of ancient Egyptian temples. What else does this map tell you about ancient Egypt?

- | | | |
|-----------|----|------------------|
| 1. locate | v. | 坐落于；位于 |
| 2. Giza | | 吉萨(埃及东北部城市，游览胜地) |
| 3. Thebes | | 底比斯(埃及尼罗河畔的古城) |
| 4. ruins | n. | 废墟；遗迹 |



Trace¹ the Nile River on its long journey north to the sea. Into what body of water does it flow? What is the fan-shaped land along the sea called?

Now compare² ancient Egypt with modern Egypt. How are modern Egypt and ancient Egypt alike and different? Do you see the same cities on both maps?

The capital of modern Egypt is Cairo³. Cairo is the largest city in Africa. It is one of the

biggest cities in the world! About seven million people live there. The streets are full of people. Aswan⁴ is another important place in modern Egypt. An enormous⁵ dam⁶ that supplies⁷ most of Egypt's water is located there.

1. trace	v.	追踪
2. compare	v.	比较
3. Cairo		开罗
4. Aswan		阿斯旺
5. enormous	adj.	巨大的; 庞大的
6. dam	n.	坝
7. supply	v.	供应

On the streets of Cairo you will see a mix of the old and the new.



LIFE ALONG THE NILE RIVER

尼罗河流域的生活

WORD POWER

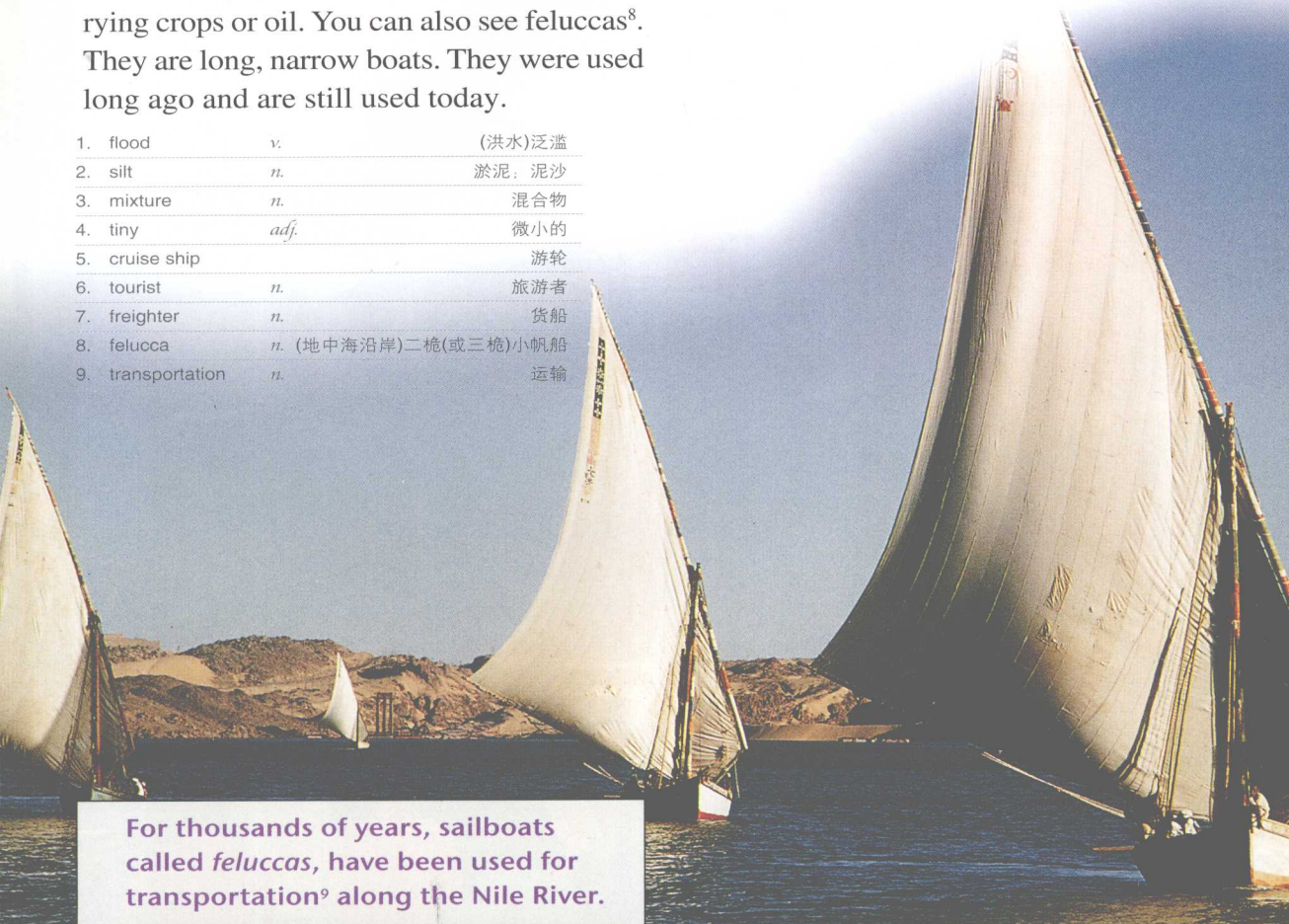
In ancient times, the land along the Nile was called *kemet*, which meant “black land.” The soil turned black after the river flooded. The desert land was called *deshret*, which meant “red land.”

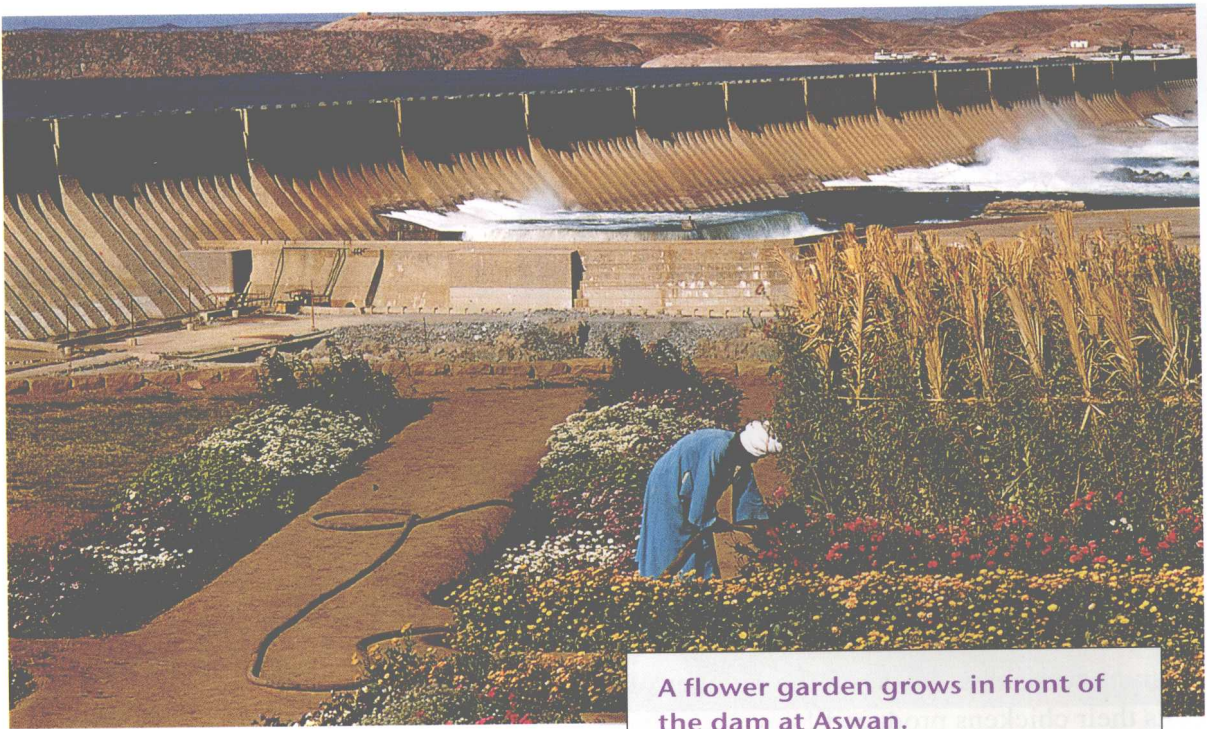
In ancient times, the Nile flooded¹ every year between July and September. The floodwaters spread silt², a mixture³ of tiny⁴ bits of soil and rock, over the land around the river. Water and silt turned dry land into good farmland.

Today, most people in Egypt still live along or near the Nile. Many boats still travel along the river. But now some are cruise ships⁵ filled with tourists⁶. Others are freighters⁷ carrying crops or oil. You can also see feluccas⁸. They are long, narrow boats. They were used long ago and are still used today.

1. flood	v.	(洪水)泛滥
2. silt	n.	淤泥; 泥沙
3. mixture	n.	混合物
4. tiny	adj.	微小的
5. cruise ship		游轮
6. tourist	n.	旅游者
7. freighter	n.	货船
8. felucca	n.	(地中海沿岸)二桅(或三桅)小帆船
9. transportation	n.	运输

For thousands of years, sailboats called *feluccas*, have been used for transportation⁹ along the Nile River.





A flower garden grows in front of the dam at Aswan.

THE ASWAN DAM

Egypt is mostly desert. Only the land near the Nile River can be used for farming. Over time, more and more people chose to live here. But there was not enough farmland to raise food for all these people. To create¹ more farmland, a dam was built at Aswan in 1902. Farmers used water from the dam to irrigate², or water, their land. During dry spells³, they could grow more crops.

A second dam, the Aswan High Dam, opened in 1971. Now the Nile no longer floods. The dam holds back⁴ the waters from flowing over the land. The dam also created Lake Nasser⁵ on the border⁶ between Egypt and Sudan⁷. The waters of Lake Nasser can be used all year to irrigate desert land.

1. create	v.	创造
2. irrigate	v.	灌溉; 浇灌
3. spell	n.	(特定天气)一段持续时间
4. hold back		阻止
5. Lake Nasser		纳赛尔水库
6. border	n.	边界
7. Sudan		苏丹
8. wildlife	n.	野生动植物
9. hippopotamus	n.	河马
10. antelope	n.	羚羊
11. hyena	n.	鬣狗
12. crocodile	n.	鳄(俗称鳄鱼)

LOOKING BACK

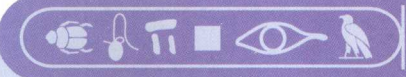
In ancient times, a lot of wildlife⁸ lived along the Nile. They included hippopotamuses⁹, antelopes¹⁰, hyenas¹¹, and crocodiles¹². Today, large wild animals live only along parts of the southern Nile.

If you had the richest soil in the world, what would you do for a living? You'd farm. In ancient Egypt, most people were farmers. Each October they planted their crops. They planted barley¹, flax², and wheat. Barley was used to make bread and beer. Flax was used to make linen³ clothes. Wheat was used to make flour⁴ and bread.

1. barley	<i>n.</i>	大麦
2. flax	<i>n.</i>	亚麻
3. linen	<i>adj.</i>	亚麻的
4. flour	<i>n.</i>	面粉
5. tax	<i>n.</i>	税
6. purpose	<i>n.</i>	目的
7. produce	<i>v.</i>	产(蛋)
8. wooden plow		木犁
9. donkey	<i>n.</i>	驴子
10. honey	<i>n.</i>	蜂蜜

Ancient Egyptians kept careful records, or lists, of their crops and cattle. These records were kept for tax⁵ purposes⁶. Everyone had to pay taxes on their crops and their animals. Farmers were even taxed on the number of eggs their chickens produced⁷!

Ancient Egyptians used wooden plows⁸. Either the farmers or cattle pulled the plows. Farmers raised cattle, goats, ducks, and donkeys⁹. Some raised bees for honey¹⁰.



Then & Now

In ancient times, Egypt grew much more food than it needed. It sold the extra food to other countries. Today, Egypt can't grow enough food for its people. It must buy more than half its food from other countries.





Today, camels help with farming.

Today, many Egyptians are still farmers. Many people live on the land near the river now. This means that each farmer has less land to farm than in the past. Farmers have had to move into the desert where the land is very dry.

In desert areas, some farmers use modern machines to irrigate. Others use the same wells that were used long ago. Farm fields are small. Irrigation canals¹ run around them. Without Nile floods, the soil is not as rich as it was long ago. Farmers must fertilize², or enrich³, their land.

1. canal	<i>n.</i>	运河
2. fertilize	<i>v.</i>	施肥
3. enrich	<i>v.</i>	使(土壤)变肥沃
4. bean	<i>n.</i>	豆
5. load		负载物

Today, farmers grow several different crops. Cotton is the most important crop. Egypt is one of the world's leading producers of cotton. Other important crops are rice, corn, wheat, beans⁴, and oranges.



Then & Now

In ancient Egypt, farmers used donkeys to move heavy loads⁵. Today, farmers use camels. Ancient Egyptians did not have camels.

AN EGYPTIAN COMMUNITY

HOMES

If few trees grew in your homeland, what would you use to build your house? In ancient Egypt, people built their homes out of bricks¹ made from mud² and straw³. They dried the bricks in the sun. Most houses had one floor. Some had cellars⁴ for storing things. Houses had little furniture⁵. People sat on stools⁶ or cushions⁷. They stored things in small chests⁸.

Many houses opened onto dusty⁹, sandy¹⁰ streets. To keep out the heat and sand, houses had small windows. To keep cool, families spent time on their roof. There they enjoyed

埃及的社会生活

cool breezes¹¹. Sometimes, people even slept on the roof!

Today, cities such as Cairo have large, new buildings. Living in an Egyptian city today is like living in any modern city. But villages in the countryside are more like those of long ago. The houses are still made from dried bricks. Some of these houses have electricity¹² and even air-conditioning¹³.

1. brick	<i>n.</i>	砖
2. mud	<i>n.</i>	泥
3. straw	<i>n.</i>	稻草
4. cellar	<i>n.</i>	地窖; 地下室
5. furniture	<i>n.</i>	家具
6. stool	<i>n.</i>	凳子
7. cushion	<i>n.</i>	垫子; 坐垫
8. chest	<i>n.</i>	柜子; 橱
9. dusty	<i>adj.</i>	满是灰尘的
10. sandy	<i>adj.</i>	多沙的
11. breeze	<i>n.</i>	微风
12. electricity	<i>n.</i>	电
13. air-conditioning	<i>n.</i>	空调





Both men and women in ancient Egypt wore jewelry¹³ and makeup¹⁴.

CLOTHES

What do you wear when it is very hot? Probably something light and cool. Egypt is a hot country. People **in ancient Egypt** wore light clothes. Men wore a short kilt¹, a kind of skirt. Women wore robes² or simple dresses. Most clothes were white. Only the rich had their clothes dyed³ in bright colors. Children wore the same styles⁴ as their parents.

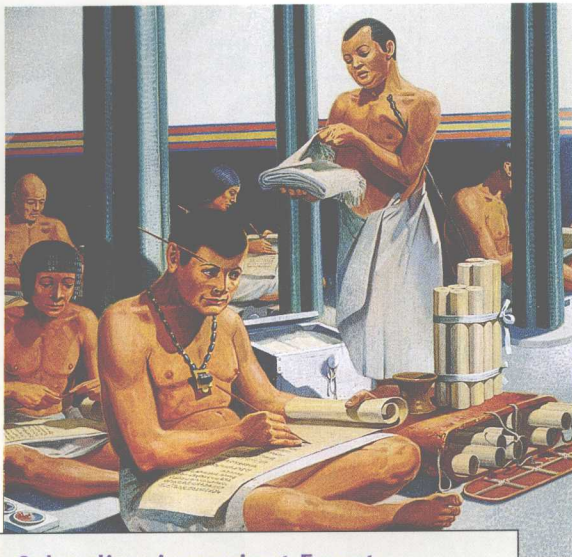
Many men and women shaved their heads to keep cool. Children shaved their heads except for a sidelock. This was a piece of hair on the side of their head. Both men and women wore wigs⁵ to protect⁶ their heads in the sun.

Today, few Egyptians shave their heads. They wear clothes much like the clothes you wear. They also wear flowing robes and light, full pants. Many wear hats to keep cool. Their hats work like the wigs that ancient people wore.

1. kilt	n.	苏格兰式短裙
2. robe	n.	长袍
3. dye	v.	染色
4. style	n.	样式
5. wig	n.	假发
6. protect	v.	保护
7. deodorant	n.	除臭剂
8. cone	n.	锥形物
9. perfume	v.	熏香
10. fat	n.	脂肪
11. melt	v.	融化
12. warmth	n.	温暖
13. jewelry	n.	珠宝
14. makeup	n.	化妆

LOOKING BACK

Ancient Egyptians wore deodorant⁷ on top of their heads! They sometimes placed a cone⁸ of perfumed⁹ animal fat¹⁰ on top of their wig. When the fat melted¹¹ from the warmth¹², it gave off a nice smell.



Schooling in ancient Egypt

SCHOOL

We don't know much about schools in **ancient Egypt**. We do know that only boys went to school. They started school at age seven. Some went to boarding schools¹ at temples². Others became the students of "wise men."

Boys learned to read and write first. Then they studied mathematics³, geography⁴, drawing, and foreign languages. Most girls were taught only at home. They learned household⁵ skills, such as weaving⁶ and cooking. Some girls also learned to read and write.

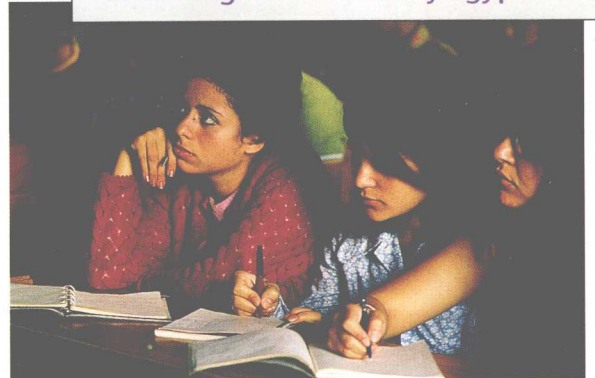
1. boarding school		寄宿学校
2. temple	<i>n.</i>	庙宇; 寺院
3. mathematics	<i>n.</i>	数学
4. geography	<i>n.</i>	地理
5. household	<i>adj.</i>	家庭的
6. weave	<i>v.</i>	纺织
7. elementary	<i>adj.</i>	初级的
8. attend	<i>v.</i>	上(学)
9. university	<i>n.</i>	大学
10. chant	<i>v.</i>	单调反复地唱(说)
11. phrase	<i>n.</i>	词组
12. arithmetic	<i>n.</i>	算术
13. separate	<i>adj.</i>	单独的

LOOKING BACK

Ancient Egyptians learned to read by chanting¹⁰ aloud. They chanted aloud whole words and phrases¹¹. Arithmetic¹² was worked out silently. Ancient Egyptians counted in 10s and had no separate¹³ numbers for 2 through 9. So, the number 35 was thought of as $10+10+10+1+1+1+1+1$.

Today, elementary⁷ and high school education in Egypt is free. The law states that children between the ages of 6 and 14 must go to school. Both boys and girls go to school. Most children attend⁸ elementary school. About half of the children then go on to high school. Egypt has several universities⁹. The largest is Cairo University.

Schooling in modern-day Egypt



FOOD

In ancient Egypt, supper was often vegetables and fish. Rich Egyptians ate meat they roasted¹ over fires. A favorite² salad was cucumbers³ and lettuce⁴. Ancient Egyptians loved to eat sweet things. They baked many different kinds of breads sweetened⁵ with honey and fruits. To help grind⁶ their wheat, they added sand to it! The sand hurt their teeth. Many people had toothaches or ground away teeth by eating a lot of bread!

Just like today, ancient Egypt was very hot. Food spoiled⁷ quickly. To preserve⁸ their food, people dried fish and meat in the sun or salted them.

Today, Egyptians use refrigerators⁹ to preserve their food. They also use canned¹⁰ food which keeps longer in warm climates¹¹.

1. roast	v.	烤
2. favorite	adj.	最喜欢的
3. cucumber	n.	黄瓜
4. lettuce	n.	莴苣
5. sweeten	v.	(使)变甜
6. grind	v.	磨(碎); 碾(碎)
7. spoil	v.	(食物等)变坏
8. preserve	v.	保存; 保藏
9. refrigerator	n.	冰箱
10. can	v.	罐装
11. climate	n.	气候
12. scented	adj.	芳香的
13. napkin	n.	餐巾; 小毛巾
14. sift	v.	筛
15. ancestor	n.	祖先

LOOKING BACK

Most Egyptians ate their food with their fingers. The rich used scented¹² water and napkins¹³ to wash their hands as they ate.

An Egyptian farmer sifts¹⁴ grain as his ancestors¹⁵ did thousands of years ago.

THE PHARAOHS

埃及法老

The most important leader in ancient Egypt was a king, or pharaoh. Ancient Egyptians believed that the pharaoh was a god. Many people kissed the ground he walked on. Some believed he could control the weather! Everything that a pharaoh wore and used was made just for him.

POWERFUL² RULERS

Would you like to receive many golden gifts? Well, the pharaohs of ancient Egypt did. Pharaohs had large armies and were very powerful. Other rulers feared the pharaohs. They sent the pharaohs gifts. Nubia³, a country south of Egypt, sent the pharaohs gold plates, gold jewelry, and even gold bows⁴.

Imagine having everything you do and say written down. The pharaohs had scribes⁵ who did this. These writings were later put on the walls of a pharaoh's tomb, or grave⁶. They were carved⁷ on the monuments that

the pharaoh built. The scribe also recorded tax payments, laws, and all the pharaoh's speeches.

Many celebrations⁸ were held at the royal court⁹, where pharaoh and his family lived. Singers and dancers entertained¹⁰. Musicians¹¹ played harps¹² and flutes¹³. A storyteller told the court of the great deeds of the pharaohs. Children played games, such as leapfrog¹⁴ and tug-of-war¹⁵.

1. control	v.	控制
2. powerful	adj.	强有力的
3. Nubia		努比亚
4. bow	n.	弓
5. scribe	n.	抄写员
6. grave	n.	坟墓; 陵墓
7. carve	v.	雕刻
8. celebration	n.	庆典
9. royal court		宫廷
10. entertain	v.	给……娱乐
11. musician	n.	乐师
12. harp	n.	竖琴
13. flute	n.	长笛
14. leapfrog	n.	跳背游戏
15. tug-of-war	n.	拔河(比赛)
16. Hatshepsut		哈特谢普苏特(古埃及女王)
17. crown	n.	王冠
18. ceremonial	adj.	礼仪的

MEET Hatshepsut¹⁶

Few women held important positions in ancient Egypt. One of those few was Queen Hatshepsut. She ruled Egypt for about 20 years. She wore the pharaoh's crown¹⁷ and a royal ceremonial¹⁸ beard.

