

Chapter 4 – Ancient Egypt
Section 2 – The Old Kingdom

Main Ideas	Definitions and Supporting Details
<p>LIFE IN THE OLD KINGDOM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Pharaohs <i>Old Kingdom</i> <i>Khufu</i> • Society and Trade <i>nobles</i> <p>RELIGION AND EGYPT LIFE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gods of Egypt • Emphasis on the Afterlife • Burial Practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around 2700 BC the Third Dynasty began to rule, its rule began the Old Kingdom. • The Old Kingdom lasted for about 500 years. During this time people believed that the pharaoh was both king and god and that the pharaoh ruled for the rest of the gods. • Khufu was the most famous pharaoh of the Old Kingdom. • At the end of the Old Kingdom, social classes appeared. • The top two echelons of the society consisted of the pharaoh and nobles. • Lower in class were the scribes and craftspeople, then the farmers, servants, and slaves. • Egyptian religion focused on what happened after people died. • Egyptians worshipped <u>many</u> gods, some of which mixed human and animal forms. • Egyptians believed that a person's <i>ka</i> had the same needs as one had when living. • In order to sustain the link between the body and its <i>ka</i> the dead were mummified. • The elite Egyptians preserved their relatives in a complex mummification process.
<p>Summary During the Old Kingdom Egyptians believed their pharaoh was part human and part god. The pharaoh had absolute power of the land and people. Also during this time Egyptian religion focused on the afterlife. They preserved the bodies of the Egyptian elite as mummies by removing the organs, drying out the body, wrapping the body, then placing it in the sarcophagus.</p>	

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<p>THE PYRAMIDS</p> <p><i>Pyramids</i></p> <p><i>Engineering</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building the Pyramids • Significance of the Pyramids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burial sites were very important. • Egyptians built spectacular monuments to bury their rulers. The most spectacular of all monuments were the pyramids built during the Old Kingdom. • The Great Pyramid of Khufu is a great reminder of how fantastic Egyptian engineering was. • The earliest pyramids did not have smooth sides. The smooth-sided pyramids weren't built until around 2700 BC. • Historians aren't sure exactly how the pyramids were built. They do know that it took a lot of laborers and that they were paid for their work. • The shape and size of the pyramid was significant. The point at the top symbolized the pharaoh's journey to the afterlife. • To ensure a pharaoh's safety into the afterlife, magic spells and hymns were written on pharaohs' tombs. • Pharaohs were important even after death.
<p>Summary</p> <p>Egyptian's built spectacular pyramids as burial places for their pharaohs; however historians aren't sure exactly how they were built. The shape was a symbol of the pharaoh's journey into the afterlife. In order to ensure the pharaoh was safe in his/her afterlife Egyptians wrote Pyramid Texts on the tomb walls.</p>	