ARCHITECT IMHOTEP
(2635.-2595. BC)

Imhotep is often considered the first true architect. Imhotep existed as a mythological figure in the minds of scholars until the nineteenth century when he was established as a real historical personage. Revered as a god, a patron of scribes, a sage, and a leader, he is considered to be the earliest known named architect.

The greatest achievement of Imhotep is the Step Pyramid at Saqqara. This complex represents the first major work in stone. He built the pyramid for Djoser (2667-2648), but it became an architectural model for the spiritual ideals of the people of Egypt.

Djoser's Step Pyramid was not just a tomb, but was a collection of temples, pavilions, corridors, chapels, halls and storerooms. His plan included fluted columns that were attached to the limestone walls, which conformed to the walls in the palace. This preserved a link with the past in the ancient styles of architecture.

The original structure was an underground burial chamber. This chamber was rare in that it was square; most mastabas were rectangular. The royal tomb is 28 m underground with a vertical shaft leading to it. The entrance was sealed with a 3-ton piece of granite. The face of the mastaba was a fine Tura limestone. Apparently it was intended for this to be the finishing touches to the building. It was then enlarged all around with ten feet of additional limestone and then again with an extension on the eastern side. The extension was twenty five feet of limestone to make the mastaba rectangular. Again, it was enlarged and a two-tiered structure was made. A series of corridors and a tomb chamber was dug. Some chambers are lined with blue tiles.

After the third stage was finished, the process to make it a true step pyramid was begun. Over 200, 000 tons of stone was used to make the additional two tiers that went above the existing two tiered structure. An additional two tiers were added above the existing four to make it into the six-tiered pyramid, which is there today. A Tura limestone was added. The statue of Djoser that was found by excavators was found in the Tomb Chamber. This statue was damaged but still intact. It is located in the Cairo Museum.

Abridged from: http://www. Interoz.com/egypt/who/imphotep.htm
Http://www.touregypt.net/stepyram.htm

WARM UP

1. How much do you know about the history of civil engineering? How old do you think it is?

2. Do you know any ancient architect or his achievement?

3. Have you ever heard of Imhotep and his Step Pyramid?

READING

1. Read the text silently and write down all the words and expressions which belong to a specific civil engineering vocabulary and whose meaning you do not know (or did not know before you read the article). Use a dictionary or ask your teacher to find out their meaning.

2. Read the text once again and note down the pieces of information you find most important and interesting.

VOCABULARY

1. Match the words with their definitions.

chamber	- a small room used for God worship
storeroom	- a grave built of stone under or above the ground
chapel	- a building used for the worship of a god or gods
mastaba	- a room used for storing things ,esp. in a shop
temple	- a room of the specified type: a gas…, a burial
tomb	- an Egyptian tomb connected with a mummy

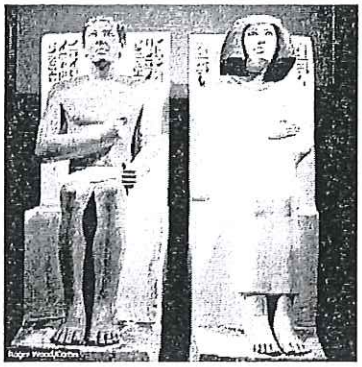


FIG.1: PRINCE RAHOTEP AND HIS WIFE NOFRET

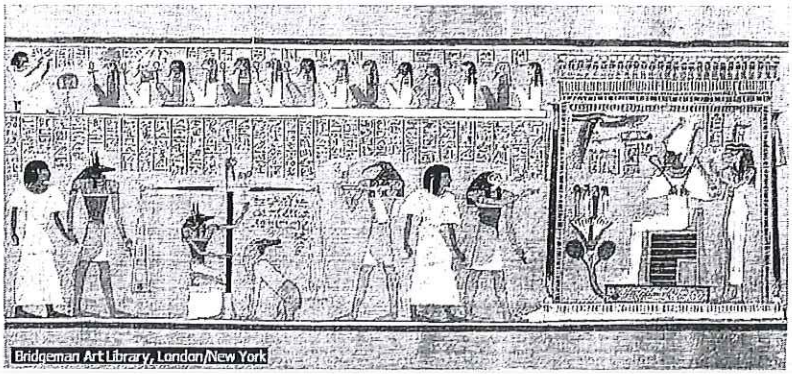


FIG. 2: SECTION OF THE EGYPTIAN BOOK OF THE DEAD

2. Complete the sentences using the professional words from the text: tier, columns, limestone, layers, masonry, and granite.

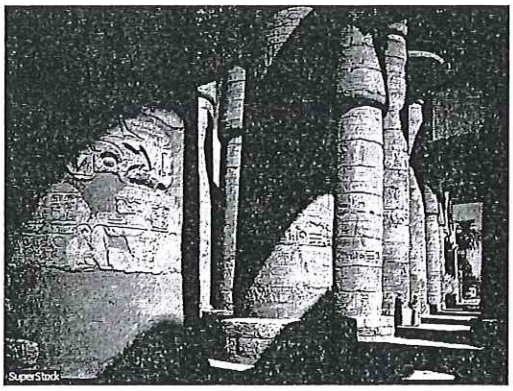


FIG. 3: HYPOSTILE HALL, TEMPLE OF AMON AT KARNAK

1. Cement is made of _____ and clay.

2. Several thin _____ of clothing will keep you warmer than one thick one.

3. The third _____ of local government administration is going to be finished in less than one month.

4. The heaviest _____ block in the Great Pyramid weighs more than 70 tons.

5. Ancient architects used to construct massive _____ to support parts of the roof of a building.

6. _____ is the part of a building that is made of stone and cement.

3. Find in the text about Imhotep noun + noun or adjective + noun collocations. Try to think of other possible adjectives or nouns, which could make some new possible collocations.

Example: limestone walls (the collocation from the text)

limestone block	high walls
_____ rock	bearing _____
_____ structure	stone _____

GRAMMAR

REVISE AND PRACTISE THE PASSIVE

1. Complete the lines.

2. Find example sentences from the text for the each given tense.

Name of tenses	Form with do	Form with write
present simple		
	was done	
		has been written
past perfect		

3. Put these sentences into the passive form.

1. Someone damaged the statue of Djoser.
2. People can still see the statue in the Cairo Museum.
3. Excavators had found the other tombs and monuments outside the wall.
4. Engineers enlarge the building to make it more attractive.
5. They have closed the chamber to the public.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

4. Translate the following passive sentences and then turn them into the active.

1. Imhotep has been credited with innumerable architectural achievements.
2. He is considered to be the earliest known architect.
3. His plan included columns that were attached to the limestone walls.
4. The Step Pyramid is believed to have been created by one man, Imhotep
5. Over 200,000 tons of stone was used to make the additional two tiers that went above the existing two-tired structure.
6. The casing blocks on the step pyramid were set at an angle to take up the thrust of the successive layers.

TRANSLATING



FIG. 4: EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS

Imhotep, veliki arhitekt i državnik, izgradio je prvu poznatu piramidu za kralja Zosera oko 2650. godine p. n. e. Zoserov grob uzdizao se na seriji divovskih stepenica ili terasa, pa je takva piramida nazvana stepenasta piramida. Ova piramida još uvijek stoji na području drevnog grada Memfisa. Prva piramida glatkih stranica bila je izgrađena oko 2600. godine p.n.e. Započeta je kao stepenasta piramida, a onda su stepenice punjene pokrovnim kamenjem da bi joj dale glatke, kose stranice. U Gizi se nalazi 10 takvih piramida, uključujući i tri najveće i najsačuvanije u Egiptu. Najveća je bila izgrađena za kralja Khufu-a (Grci su ga zvali Keops). Druga je bila sagrađena za kralja Kefrena, a treća za kralja Menkaura. Ove piramide su divovske strukture s četvrtastom bazom i četiri trokutaste strane koje se sastaju u točki na vrhu. Mnogi znanstvenici vjeruju da je oblik piramida imao religijsko značenje za Egipćane. Kose stranice mogle su podsjećati na kose zrake sunca kojima bi se duša kralja mogla popeti na nebo i pridružiti se bogovima. Ponekad se pokraj piramida nalazila manja piramida za tijelo kraljice, dok su kraljevi rođaci i sluge zakapani u manjim pravokutnim grobnicama, zvanim mastabama.

WRITING

Imagine that you can travel by time capsule to ancient Egypt. You get the chance to meet Imhotep and talk to him. You are fascinated with his achievements and here are the questions you would put him before you go back:

1. _____ ?
2. _____ ?
3. _____ ?
4. _____ ?
5. _____ ?
6. _____ ?
7. _____ ?

HAVE FUN !

HOMOPHONES ARE WORDS THAT ARE PRONOUNCED THE SAME BUT DIFFER IN MEANING, ORIGIN, AND SOMETIMES SPELLING.

For each sentence on the right, write the correct homophones in the blank.

night/ knight
The _____ travelled all _____ to find the dragon.

way/ weigh
That's a good _____ to _____ a chicken.

rose/ rows
Only one_____ bloomed in all those _____ of flowers.

loan/lone
One _____ person applied for the student _____.

knew/ new
They _____ nothing about their _____ neighbors.