**Literary Arts 9  
Art DVG**

**ANCIENT EGYPT**

**There are three sources for all art: IMAGINATION, OBSERVATION & CONVENTION.**

* Describe the unique features of the human figure as represented in *paintings* of the Old Kingdom. What other *conventions* were used in paintings at this time?
* Why was “art” so important to the people of ancient Egypt? What does this have to do with *conventions*?
* Explain the term “close-to-the-block” as it applies to Egyptian sculpture.
* What is “canon of proportion”?

**IMPORTANT TERMS**

Amulet

Cartouche

Hieroglyphics

Ka

Law of Broadest Aspect

Obelisk

Papyrus Pharaoh

Post and Lintel

Register

Sarcophagus

Scarab

Stacked Perspective

Wadjet

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| IMPORTANT WORKS |
| 1. Palette of Narmer |
| 1. Step Pyramid of Zoser |
| 1. Khafre |
| 1. Great Sphinx |
| 1. Queen Nefertiti |
| 1. Temple of Ramses |

**PYRAMID FACTS and OTHER GODDESS** (a.k.a. Mrs. Joyce) **GOODIES**

* All the blocks in the 3 great pyramids could build a wall 10-feet high around all of France.
* The largest pyramid is taller than 40-story building and covers area greater than 10 football fields. This great pyramid took 23 years to build—meaning that on average, one stone block would need to have been put in position every 5 minutes.

**Ancient Egyptian Soup Recipe**

4 cups chicken stock ∙ 1 cup dried lentils ∙ ½ onion chopped ∙ 2 cloves garlic chopped ∙ 1 tomato chopped ∙ 1½ teaspoon cumin ∙ ½ teaspoon salt || bring chicken broth to a boil in a large pot over medium heat ∙ add lentils, onion, tomato, and garlic ∙ reduce heat to low ∙   
cover and cook 45 minutes ∙ add cumin and salt ∙ heat 5 minutes (*serves 4*)

**TUT TIDBITS**

* Robbers stole about 60% of the good stuff from Tutankhamen’s tomb
* The tomb was probably made for someone else
* There have been many theories about King Tutankhamen’s death; most propose he was murdered. New evidence seems to point to something different all together. It appears that Tutankhamen’s corpse may have been burned. The King participated in many chariot races. The theory now is that in one of these races, Tut fell from his chariot and another chariot ran over the front of the body (but not his head). Tissues combust when embalming fluids touch damaged tissue. This also explains why the wrappings around his body were not burned.
* Tut had 30 pairs of gloves and 100 items of footwear (some made of gold)
* Mummy = King Tut’s mother (HA!HA!HA!)
* Tut had a personal first-aid kit (contained a finger-sling, among other things)
* Tut had 30 boomerangs to hunt with
* Tut’s christening shawl probably took 9 months of 11-hour days to weave
* The Mask of Tutankhamen is embellished with lapis lazuli from Badakhshan in Afghanistan. These mines have been worked for more than 7,000 years. The poem, “Lapis Lazuli,” by Irish writer William Butler Yeats celebrated his possession of a statue carved from this stone. The Lapis for Yeats statue was mined from the “Blue Mountain,” so named for the great amount of this stone found there.

**OTHER GEMS**

* Colossi of Memnon reflect the huge dimensions of statuary from the New Kingdom. These were over 70’ high and are all that remain of a mortuary temple for Amun-Hotpe III. Each statue is carved from a single block of Quartzite that was quarried over 400 miles away. The ruins of the temple vanished in the 1800’s, but the size of these statues give an idea of how large it must have been. They are the inspiration for “Ozymandias” by Percy Bysshe Shelley, perhaps better known as the husband of *Frankenstein* author Mary Shelley. ☺
* Priests preparing mummies sometimes got careless. Several lizards and a mouse have been found in various mummy wrappings.
* It took 12 years for scribes to learn to write the hundreds of hieroglyphs—study begin at age 4—teachers could thrash idle pupils.
* Earliest toilet seat in the world comes from Egypt—toilets of wood, pottery and stone—seats were placed above large bowls of sand.
* Egyptians were among the first to make attempts at dentistry. Mummies have been found with filled teeth and others with gold wire to bind loose teeth like a dental bridge.
* When a remedy was prescribed by a doctor, it sometimes came in a container with a prescription written on it, like our prescriptions today.
* Egyptians made a fermented drink from cucumbers. They cut a hole in one end of the cuke, pushed a small stick through the opening and stirred it around to break up the pulp. They then plugged the hole and buried the cuke in the ground for a few days. When they dug it up, they had cucumber wine. *DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME!*
* *Things silly students have written in school reports about Egypt:* “Hair is a fact in Egypt” ∙ “Death has changed from now to then.” ∙ “…a son who was the rightful error to the throne.” … “Egyptian people still live today. They are very old.”