

# TUTANKHAMUN

HIS TOMB AND HIS TREASURES



## WORKSHEET

### MUMMIES – TOMB

# 1. Mummies



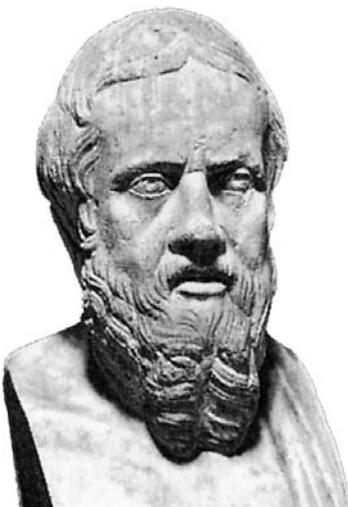
## Task A

1. Find out what a mummy is from your history book or a lexicon.
2. Investigate where the practice of mummification came from in Ancient Egypt and write a list of points summarising Egyptian beliefs in the afterlife.
3. Read Text A below with Herodotus' report on mummification in Ancient Egypt.
4. You can see pictures of Tutankhamun's real mummy at the exhibition. Compare the pictures with the reconstruction.
5. Draw or paint a picture of Tutankhamun as you imagine him.

## A Greek traveller amazed by Egypt

The Greek scholar Herodotus (c. 484 - 425 B.C.) was born in Halicarnassus in Asia Minor. He travelled widely and got to know the lands of Mesopotamia, the east coast of the Black Sea, Sicily and parts of Africa. He was a keen observer and listened closely, if sometimes too believingly, to the stories the local people told him. His work *The Histories* is seen as the first important history

book ever written and he is known as the 'Father of History'. Around 450 B.C. Herodotus travelled through Egypt. Much of what he saw and heard there filled the man from Greece with amazement.



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Herodotus

Herodotus tells us that there were three types of embalming that varied depending on the price. For Tutankhamun, a Pharaoh, only the best would do. Herodotus wrote: „...they first draw out part of the brain through the nostrils with an iron hook, and inject certain drugs into the rest. Then, making a cut near the flank with a sharp knife of Ethiopian stone, they take out all the intestines, and clean the belly, rinsing it with palm wine and bruised spices; they sew it up again after filling the belly with pure ground myrrh and cassia and any other spices, except frankincense. After doing this, they conceal the body for seventy days, embalmed in saltpetre; no longer time is allowed for the embalming; and when the seventy days have passed, they wash the body and wrap the whole of it in bandages of fine linen cloth, anointed with gum, which the Egyptians mostly use instead of glue.“

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### 1. Mummies

#### The mummy of Tutankhamun



#### Task B

1. Find out about mummification in the exhibition.
2. Make notes on the following:  
Why were dead bodies mummified in Ancient Egypt? Describe the process of mummification; what tools did they use?
3. You can see canopic jars on display in the exhibition. They are containers in which the dead person's organs were preserved. Write down headings for the organs that were placed in the canopic jars. Can you find out what religious beliefs were connected with the canopic jars?



## 2. The afterlife



### Aufgabe A

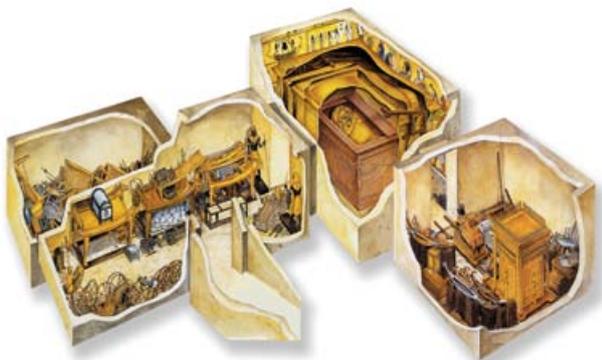
The Ancient Egyptians believed that people have souls and that the complete body was needed for life in the hereafter.

Learn more about their beliefs in life after death at the exhibition. Write a summary of the most important points afterwards.

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### 3. Tomb



*Sketch of the tomb*

Howard Carter suspected that Tutankhamun's tomb would be under the ruins of ancient builder's huts put up for the tomb of Ramesses VI in the Valley of the Kings.



*View of the ritual beds in the antechamber*



#### Task A

You've now learned a lot about mummification and Tutankhamun's tomb. In the exhibition, you can examine exactly how the burial chambers looked when Howard Carter found them.

1. Use your notes to make a wall newspaper.
2. Write a newspaper report on the funeral ceremony for Tutankhamun describing the contents of the tomb.
3. Build Tutankhamun's burial chamber out of cardboard boxes. Each person in the group should be given a different task. Fill the model of the burial chamber with miniature burial goods, shrines and a sarcophagus made of paper and cardboard.
4. Read the newspaper report aloud to your class, present your wall newspaper and model of the tomb to the class.

The tomb consists of four underground chambers carved out of the rock.

Three of these tomb chambers are shown at the exhibition just as they were when Howard Carter discovered them. Around 700 objects were found in the antechamber. In the burial chamber, which was first opened in 1923, there was a golden shrine with three more shrines inside it.

The fourth shrine contained a sarcophagus made of quartzite. The removal of the shrines and the opening of the sarcophagus and the inner coffins took place between November 1923 and May 1924.

A further chamber was used primarily for burial goods and is known as the treasury. Among other things, a canopic shrine and an Anubis shrine were found there. The side chamber revealed a collection of different jugs, oil bottles, baskets with fruit and furniture.



*Anubis shrine*