

## Class VI (Literature)

### Land of the Pharaohs

- **Summary:**

The ancient Egyptian Civilization flourished about 5000 years ago and the Egyptian Kings or the Pharaohs began to rule. Egypt became a rich and powerful nation and the Egyptians believed that their Pharaohs were God-Kings.

In the chapter, we find Ishan, a boy of class VI along with his mother is on a tour to Egypt. They visit Cairo and even Giza to see the three great pyramids. While Ishan's mother goes to fetch sandwiches and water from the car, Ishan is found speaking to the Sphinx. The Sphinx introduces Ishan and takes him back to the time when the Pharaohs ruled, around 5000 years ago. Ishan opens his eyes to see the brave soldiers, during the rule of the Pharaohs. He also sees the beautiful river Nile. He then comes across and sees the biggest pyramid, Khufu's pyramid. He is also made aware of the process of mummification. Queen Nefertiti, the teen king Tutenkhamun as well as Howard Carter, the discoverer of Tutenkhamun's tomb in 1922, does not escape Ishan's vision. When his mother comes back to him, she finds Ishan well informed about Egyptian history and Ishan thanks the Sphinx silently in his mind to have shown him Egypt, river Nile, the Pharaohs, mummification and the pyramids.

Words	Synonyms	Antonyms
a) Flourished	Developed	Decayed
b) Funerary	Related to a funeral or the commemoration of the dead	
c) Edifice	A large impressive building	-----
d) Mummification	Embalm, the preservation of a dead body by using special oils and wrapping it in cloth.	-----
e) Civilization	A state of human society that is very developed.	-----
f) Prosperity	Affluence	Adversity

### Important question and answers:

1. What is Hieroglyphs?

Ans: The picture writing used by ancient Egyptians for inscription in the tombs and temples, is called Hieroglyphs.

2. How was paper made in Egypt in those days?

Ans: Paper was made from thinly sliced papyrus stems.

3.What is a pyramid?

Ans: A pyramid is a huge, triangular monument. It is the burial ground of the Pharaohs.

4.Who is a Pharaoh?

Ans: A Pharaoh is an Egyptian King who lived around 5000 years ago.

5. What is a Sphinx?

Ans: A Sphinx is a rock statue with a human head and a lion's body. It represents Intelligence and Strength and guards the pyramids.

6. What is said to be the “Gift of Egypt” and why?

Ans: The ancient Egyptian Civilization would not have flourished without river Nile, so river Nile is said to be the “Gift of Egypt “.

7.How did the Egyptian priest preserve the dead bodies?

Ans: The Egyptian priest preserved the dead bodies of the royal persons by using spices,chemicals and oils. This process was also called mummification.

8.Why was Ishan’s father not able to accompany them to Egypt?

Ans: The prize that Ishan’s mother won at the singing competition, entitled only two for a sponsored tour of Egypt. Ishan’s father wanted Ishan and his mother to go to visit Egypt so he did not accompany them to Egypt.

9. Why do you think that at the end of the day Ishan talks his mother that he likes History?

Ans: At first Ishan did not like the dry facts of History as he could not remember them. But the pictorial study of history made him interested to know the facts. So at the end of the day he told his mother that he had begun to like History.

### **Homework:**

These questions should be practised at home :

1.What does the Sphinx represent?

2.How was ancient Egypt?

3.What did the Egyptians think of the Pharaohs?

4.Who was Queen Nefertiti?

5.Who was Tutenkhamun?

6.Who discovered Tutenkhamun’s tomb and in which year?

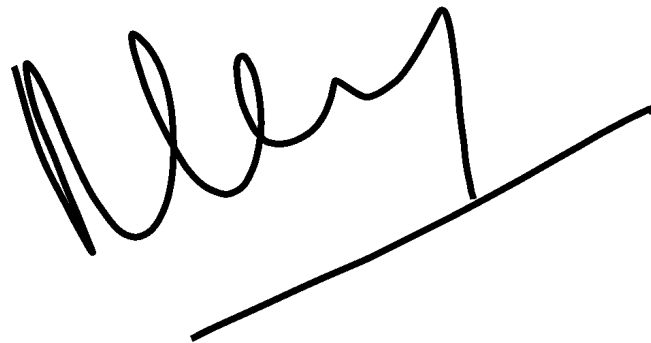
7.Which is the largest Pyramid in Egypt?

8.Where did Ishan and his mother go to see the three great pyramids?

**NB- The answers of these questions as well as the total activity should be written down in your literature class work copy.**

- If you do not understand any part or any thing please mention it in the comment box.

- Mention your name, class, section, roll number and even your phone number.
- If necessary, we would contact you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.