**EGYPT**

The Nile River in Africa has always been of great importance to the people of Egypt. Every year during the rainy season, the river overflowed its banks. A thin layer of silt deposited from the flood waters, spread out over the farmers. Fields built up and enriched the soil. The farmers of the Nile flood plain were able to store enough flood waters to irrigate their fields long after the water had receded. In addition the flood waters flushed away soil salts that tended to build up to toxic levels in the soil and endanger plants.

The yearly drying out of the area around the Nile helped to prevent the spread of a disease (borne by snails that live in water) which infects humans. Without this drying out period the numbers of snails would increase rapidly, and so to would the incidence of disease in the area.

The benefits of the flood were many. However, at times there was not enough flood water and at other times there was too much. Approximately 35 billion tonnes of water escaped unused to the sea every year.

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1. Which one of the following is the best statement of the subject of Passage 1?
2. The course of the Nile River.
3. Soil fertility in Egypt.
4. **The effects of the Nile River floods.**
5. The ability of the Egyptians to cope with floods.
6. The flooding affected the livelihood of the Egyptian farmers in that it
7. encouraged farmers to increase the area farmed each year.
8. **enabled them to maintain productivity levels year by year.**
9. removed a thin layer of enriched soil each year.
10. caused an annual loss of 35 billion tonnes of water from the Nile Valley.
11. According to passage 1, one of the major disadvantages of the Nile floods as seen by the writer was
12. **That the flood waters could not be regulated.**
13. The large number of snails killed.
14. The spreading of thick mud over the fields.
15. That the farmers were unable to utilise water for irrigation purposes.
16. After the flood waters receded, the farmers of the Nile River flood plain found that
17. the soil was less fertile.
18. irrigation of crops was unnecessary.
19. soil salts had increased to harmful levels.
20. **the soil was enriched.**

*The next three questions refer to the following information.*

[](http://www.google.com.au/imgres?um=1&hl=en&biw=1024&bih=585&tbm=isch&tbnid=1wL0pI0sRqPpKM:&imgrefurl=http://wwp.greenwichmeantime.com/time-zone/africa/egypt/map.htm&docid=djBSmNy2x-o-9M&imgurl=http://wwp.greenwichmeantime.com/images/time/africa/eg-map.jpg&w=351&h=379&ei=ZPUvUpzQLsnEkwWRxoFo&zoom=1&iact=hc&vpx=706&vpy=218&dur=1953&hovh=233&hovw=216&tx=107&ty=178&page=2&tbnh=140&tbnw=130&start=20&ndsp=28&ved=1t:429,r:46,s:0,i:227)

N

1. Which one of the following is the general direction of the flow of the Nile River?
2. east to west
3. north to south
4. **south to north**
5. west to east
6. Which one of the following is closest to the distance from Lake Victoria to the mouth of the Nile River?
7. 1000 kilometres
8. 2600 kilometres
9. 3700 kilometres
10. **4500 kilometres**
11. Much of the landscape through which the Nile flows is desert. Which one of the following statements gives evidence to support this statement?
12. large areas of the map have been left blank.
13. no rain falls in this part of the world.
14. it requires a lake to feed the river.
15. **no major left bank tributaries join the Nile in the last two thirds of its course.**

*The next two questions relate to the following climate data table of Cairo.*

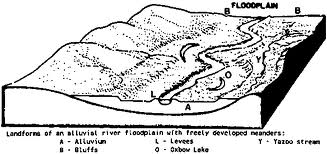
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *J* | *F* | *M* | *A* | *M* | *J* | *J* | *A* | *S* | *O* | *N* | *D* |
| *Temp oC* | *13.5* | *15* | *17.5* | *21* | *25* | *27.5* | *28* | *28* | *26* | *24* | *19.5* | *15* |
| *Rainfall mm* | *5.1* | *5.0* | *5.0* | *2.5* | *2.3* | *2.0* | *0* | *0* | *1* | *1* | *1* | *1* |

1. The total rainfall in Cairo is?
2. 5.1 mm
3. 15.9 mm
4. **25.9 mm**
5. 260 mm
6. The conclusion you can reach about the climate of Egypt is that
7. It has a hot dry summer but a wet winter.
8. It has a wet summer and a wet winter with hot temperatures.
9. **It has a hot summer and a mild winter with very little rain.**
10. It is very cold from June to December with rain all year.

*Study the diagram of a flood plain below to answer questions 10 & 11:*

1

2

[](http://www.google.com.au/imgres?um=1&hl=en&biw=1024&bih=585&tbm=isch&tbnid=gXY9Yx3CbHnMrM:&imgrefurl=http://www.oas.org/dsd/publications/Unit/oea66e/ch08.htm&docid=oY7pKArMmN3btM&imgurl=http://www.oas.org/dsd/publications/Unit/oea66e/p232.GIF&w=584&h=275&ei=S_svUsbnCMSCkQWXu4Bg&zoom=1&iact=rc&dur=125&page=2&tbnh=132&tbnw=280&start=13&ndsp=18&ved=1t:429,r:28,s:0,i:166&tx=113&ty=51)

[*www.oas.org*](http://www.oas.org)

1. The feature at 1 is
2. too high for irrigation.
3. **low lying land able to be irrigated.**
4. land that is too close to the river to be irrigated.
5. similar to the ‘Red Lands’ – dry and barren.
6. The feature at 2 is
7. a settlement area far from the flood plains.
8. **the plateau surface of the desert.**
9. a catchment area for the flood waters.
10. a scarp.
11. Jean-Francois Champollion is famous for
12. discovering the tomb of Tutankhamen.
13. **finding the Rosetta Stone.**
14. deciphering hieroglyphics.
15. exploring the Nile River.
16. Which one of these statements is false?
17. The Egyptians used horses for transport.
18. The Egyptians used reeds to build boats.
19. **The Egyptians burned coal as a fuel.**
20. The Egyptians used limestone and granite for buildings.
21. The Egyptians had to be skilful farmers because
22. the Nile River flooded regularly.
23. **they had to make the best use of limited land.**
24. the rainfall was irregular.
25. they did not eat meat.
26. Read the following description and say which person it describes:

*“I make sure the King’s orders and wishes are carried out. I meet with the King and then see lesser officials to pass on the King’s instructions…..”*

1. The Scribe
2. The Governor
3. The High Priest
4. **The Vizier**
5. Pharaoh was the Egyptian word for a
6. noble
7. queen
8. **king**
9. lord
10. The tombs of the Pharaohs often took the form of
11. crematoria
12. catacombs
13. cataracts
14. **pyramids**
15. Papyrus was used
16. **to make paper.**
17. as a food.
18. for clothing.
19. for decoration.
20. Irrigation was used extensively on the farms mainly because
21. **there was little or no rainfall.**
22. the Nile water deposited rich silt.
23. wheat and corn grew only during floods.
24. irrigation was expensive.
25. The main function of the shaduf was
26. irrigate the papyrus plants.
27. water the fields.
28. control flooding.
29. **lift water between levels.**
30. Scribes were
31. tools used for harvesting grain.
32. **men of Ancient Egypt who could write.**
33. Ancient Egyptian letters.
34. a type of hieroglyphics.
35. Amun-Ra was
36. an important pyramid builder.
37. a High Priest.
38. a tributary of the Nile River.
39. **an important god.**
40. Embalming was the process used in
41. making beer.
42. keeping rafts watertight.
43. **preparing bodies for burial.**
44. religious ceremonies.
45. Most of the soil in the Nile Valley is
46. volcanic.
47. **alluvial.**
48. gravel.
49. infertile.
50. The farmers of Ancient Egypt planted their crops
51. when the land was inundated.
52. **when the flood waters had retreated.**
53. between July and October.
54. after the hunting season.
55. The Blue Nile originates at
56. the Tropic of Cancer.
57. the Mediterranean Sea.
58. **the Ethiopian Highlands.**
59. the Nile Delta.
60. The “Cities of the Dead” were situated
61. **in Thebes**.
62. in the cemetery of every city.
63. on the west side of the Nile.
64. at the Nile Delta.
65. One of the most valuable tombs ever opened was that of
66. Rameses II
67. Nefertiti
68. Queen Hatshepsut
69. **Tutankhamen**
70. The Ancient Egyptians had how many gods?
71. 1027
72. 43
73. 63
74. 8
75. In the season of “Going Out” (emergence) farmers
76. built pyramids.
77. **planted crops**
78. harvested crops.
79. threshed crops.

**PART B: Written Section**

***Answer two of the following questions:***

1. Explain the meaning of the following terms:

Pharaoh polytheism

shaduf sarcophagus

fertile religion

inundation mummification

hieroglyphics scribe

1. Write a short essay on the Ancient Egyptian system of agriculture. You could make mention of the crops, the seasons, the level of technology and the methods of irrigation.
2. Write a short essay on the Ancient Egyptian religion. You could mention; the gods, mummification, tombs, the Afterworld.
3. Draw up a social pyramid of Ancient Egyptian society. Explain briefly the role or job of a) The Pharaoh

b) The Vizier

c) The Scribes

d) The Artisans