

She **backed away** from him.

"I fear I cannot wear your glasses, Jack," she said. "I am made of air."

"Oh. I forgot," said Annie.

"But perhaps you will describe the hieroglyphs on these walls," said the ghost-queen.

"Hi-row-who?" said Annie.

"Hieroglyphs!" said Jack, finally finding his voice.

"It's the **ancient** Egyptian way of writing.

It's like writing with pictures."

The ghost-queen smiled at him.

"Thank you, Jack," she said.

Jack smiled back at her. He put his glasses on.

Then he stepped toward the wall and took a good long look.

"Oh, man," he whispered.

perhaps (adv.) บางที  
describe (v.) อธิบาย  
hieroglyph (n.) อักษรอียิปต์โบราณ

back away (phrv.)  
ถอยห่าง, ถอยกลับ

ancient = old  
(adj.) โบราณ, เก่าแก่

### Reading Comprehension Test

What was the hieroglyphs?

- a. the ancient Egyptian book
- b. the ancient Egyptian glasses
- c. the ancient Egyptian way of writing

answer: c. the ancient Egyptian way of writing

### Let's learn!

to take a good look at something =

ดูบางสิ่งอย่างพินิจพิเคราะห์หรืออย่างละเอียดถี่ถ้วน

ตัวอย่างเช่น

- They take a good look at my diamond ring.  
พวกเขาดูแหวนเพชรของฉันอย่างพินิจพิเคราะห์

## 6

# The Writing on the Wall

Jack and Annie squinted at the pyramid wall.

A series of tiny pictures were carved into the stone.

series (n.) ชุด  
stone (n.) หิน



"There are four pictures here," Jack told the ghost-queen.

"Describe them to me, Jack. **One at a time**, please," she said.

Jack studied the first picture.

one at a time = ทีละคน, ทีละอัน  
ในที่นี้หมายถึง ทีละตัว

### Reading Comprehension Test

How many pictures were carved on the pyramid wall?

- a. 2
- b. 3
- c. 4

answer: c. 4

### Let's learn!

stone = rock (n.) แปลว่า หิน แต่ในภาษาอังกฤษแบบอังกฤษ stone จะหมายถึงหินที่เป็นก้อนๆ ที่สามารถหยิบเก็บได้ แต่ในภาษาอังกฤษแบบอเมริกันจะใช้ทั้งสองคำในความหมายเหมือนกัน ไม่ว่าจะเป็นหินก้อนขนาดใหญ่หรือขนาดเล็กๆ





"Okay," he said. "The first one is like this."

He made a zigzag in the air with his finger. "Like stairs?"

asked the ghost-queen. "Yes, stairs!"

said Jack. "Just like stairs." She nodded.

Easy enough. Jack studied the second picture.



"The second one has a long box on the bottom," he said.

He drew it in the air. The ghost-queen looked puzzled.

"With three things on top. Like this," said Annie.

She drew squiggly lines in the air.

The ghost-queen still seemed puzzled.

"Like a hat," said Jack.

zigzag (n.) รูปซิกแซก  
finger (n.) นิ้วมือ  
stair (n.) บันได  
nod (v.) พยักหน้า  
easy (adj.) ง่าย  
enough (adv.) พอ  
box (n.) กล่อง  
bottom (n.) ฐาน, ก้น  
puzzled (adj.) งงงวย  
squiggly (adv.) อย่างยึกยือ  
line (n.) เส้น  
hat (n.) หมวก

draw (v.) วาด  
(v.2 = drew, v.3 = drawn)

### Reading Comprehension Test

What was the first picture like?

- a. a hat
- b. the stairs
- c. a house

answer: b. the stairs

### Let's learn!

in the air = ในอากาศหรือกลางอากาศ

ตัวอย่างเช่น

- I smell something in the air.  
ฉันได้กลิ่นอะไรบางอย่างในอากาศ

"Hat?" said the ghost-queen.

"No. More like a boat," said Annie.

"Boat?" said the ghost-queen.

She got excited. "Boat?"

Jack took another look at the wall.

"Yes. It could be a boat," he said.

The ghost-queen looked very happy.

She smiled. "Yes. Of course," she said.

Jack and Annie studied the next picture.



"The third one is like a thing that holds flowers," said Annie.

"Or a thing that holds water," said Jack.

"Like a jug?" asked the ghost-queen.

"Exactly," said Jack.

"Yes. A jug," said Annie.

boat (n.) เรือ  
excited (adj.) ตื่นเต้น  
jug (n.) เทียน  
exactly (adv.) อย่างแน่นอน, อย่างถูกต้อง

happy (adj.) มีความสุข  
ตรงข้ามกับ sad (adj.) เศร้า

### Reading Comprehension Test

What was the third picture like?

- a. a hat
- b. a jug
- c. a boat

answer: b. a jug

### Let's learn!

of course = ได้เลย, แน่นอน อีกคำที่มีความหมายเดียวกันคือ certainly

ตัวอย่างเช่น

A: Will you come to the party?

เธอจะมางานเลี้ยงไหม

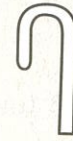
B: Of course! / Certainly!

แน่นอนอยู่แล้ว!





Jack and Annie studied the last picture.



**“And the last one looks like a pole that droops,” said Annie.** “Like a curved stick,” said Jack.

“But one side is shorter than the other.”

The ghost-queen looked puzzled.

“Wait,” said Jack. “I’ll draw it in my notebook.

Big! So you can see it.”

Jack put down the scepter and got out his pencil.

He drew the hieroglyph.

“A folded cloth,” said the ghost-queen.

**“Well, not really,”** said Jack. He studied his drawing.

“But that is the hieroglyph for a folded cloth,” said the ghost-queen. “Well, okay,” said Jack.

**last** (adj.) สุดท้าย  
**pole** (n.) เสา  
**droop** (v.) งอลง, ก้มต่ำลง  
**curved** (adj.) โค้ง  
**stick** (n.) กิ่งไม้, ไม้เท้า  
**side** (n.) ด้าน  
**folded** (adj.) ที่พับไว้  
**cloth** (n.) ผ้า

Well, not really.  
 = เออ ไม่ใช่ค่ะ

#### Reading Comprehension Test

What did the last picture mean?

- a. the jug
- b. the folded cloth
- c. the stairs

answer: b. the folded cloth

#### Let's learn!

to look like = ดูเหมือน, ดูคล้าย

ตัวอย่างเช่น

- She looks like her mother.

เธอดูเหมือนแม่ของเธอ





He looked at the fourth hieroglyph again.  
He still couldn't see the folded cloth.  
Unless it was like a towel **hanging over**  
a bathroom rod.

"So that's all of them," said Annie.


She pointed at each picture. "Stairs. Boat. Jug. Folded cloth."

Jack wrote the words in his notebook.

Stairs = 

Jug = 

boat = 

Cloth = 

"So what does the message mean?"

he asked the ghost-queen.

"Come," she said. She held out her hand.

"Come to my burial chambers." And she floated away.

unless (adv.) นอกเสียจาก  
towel (n.) ผ้าเช็ดตัว  
bathroom rod (n.)  
ราวแขวนผ้าในห้องน้ำ  
float (v.) ลอย

hang over (phrv.)  
แขวนอยู่บน, พาดอยู่บน

### Reading Comprehension Test

Which picture that Jack thought it looked like a towel hanging over a bathroom rod?

- the second picture
- the third picture
- the fourth picture

answer: c. the fourth picture

### Let's learn!

cloth (n.) อ่านว่า คลอ แปลว่า ผ้า  
แต่ clothe (v.) อ่านว่า โคลธ แปลว่า ใส่เสื้อผ้า  
อย่าจำสับสนเมื่อนำไปใช้

## 7

### The Scroll

Jack put the scepter and his notebook and pencil into his pack.

**He and Annie followed the ghost-queen.**

Deeper into the pyramid.

Until they came to some stairs.

"The STAIRS!" said Jack and Annie.

The ghost-queen floated up the stairs.

Jack and Annie followed.

The ghost-queen floated right through a wooden door.

Jack and Annie **pushed on** the door.

It opened slowly.

push on  
(phrv.) ผลัก, ดัน

scroll (n.) ม้วนกระดาษ  
until (prep.) จนกระทั่ง  
door (n.) ประตู

### Reading Comprehension Test

What did the ghost-queen float through?

- the wooden stairs
- the wooden window
- the wooden door

answer: c. the wooden door

### Let's learn!

until (prep.) จนกระทั่ง, จนกว่า มีรูปไม่เป็น  
ทางการคือ till ใช้ในภาษาพูดหรือภาษาเขียนที่  
ไม่เป็นทางการ

ตัวอย่างเช่น

- Wait here, till I come back.

รอกูอยู่นี่นะ จนกว่าฉันจะกลับมา