

**Archaeology: From Map to Museum**

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**Video Review 11: This Old Pyramid**

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**Directions:** The field of Experimental Archaeology employs a diverse array of methods for testing assumptions about past human behaviors and ancient technologies. Today's Lab Deliverable is intended to have you test assumptions about the construction of the Great Pyramid of Egypt. You will review the video "This Old Pyramid" and will produce notes relevant to that content presented in the video. You should be prepared to include your video notes in your final portfolio, and your responses to the following questions should be posted to the Discussion Forum before the next class period.

**Proposed Reconstruction**

First, prior to the viewing of the video, please provide a hypothetical reconstruction of how it is that you believe the Great Pyramid of Egypt was originally constructed? In preparing to respond to this request for information, please work within your group to identify resources from the Internet that would be useful to making your assessment and providing a basis for the proposed reconstruction. In preparing your reconstruction, please consider the respective roles that each of the following may have played in the building of the Great Pyramid:

- Masonry Ramps
- Wooden Rollers
- Levers and Fulcrums
- Ropes and Pulleys

**Questions:** Please provide responses to the following questions:

1. Which of the proposed reconstructions of the Great Pyramid did you feel held the greatest potential for an accurate reconstruction? Which of the proposals appeared the least likely?
2. How did the team in question manage their approach to the reconstruction as per the variety of proposals offered? Did the team remain committed to only one of the various models presented?
3. When conflicts or debates ensued between participants in the project, how did team members resolve their differences?
4. Do you believe that the results of the reconstruction in question present an accurate and or likely scenario for how it was that the Great Pyramid was constructed? Why, or Why Not?
5. What do you believe was the primary incentive or motivation that fueled the construction of the Great Pyramid itself?
6. Do you believe that the Great Pyramid was the product of volunteer, tributary, or slave labor? Why or Why Not?
7. Do you believe that the reconstruction illustrated in this video provided information that might be of value to archaeologists attempting to interpret the archaeology of the Great Pyramid? Why, or Why Not?