Egyptian Religion, Writing, Science, and Medicine

*Directions: Complete the notes while reading p. 82-85 and p. 93-95.*

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| **Chapter 3, Section 3 p. 82-85** |
| 1. Was religion important to the Egyptians? Explain.

Yes, Egyptians believed the gods and goddesses controlled the workings of nature.  |
| 1. Name some of Egypt’s most important gods and what those gods were over.

Amon-re, the sun god and god of creation. He protected the rich and the poor. Egyptians believed he was born each morning in the east with the sunrise and died with the sunset. This explains why the western desert is known as the “home of the dead”Horus, the sky god and the god of kingship.Osiris, the god of the afterlife.Isis, the goddess of women.Thoth, the god of wisdom and writing. |
| 1. What did Ancient Egyptians believe afterlife was like? Describe their belief.

A.E. believed the afterlife was life after death. They believed the afterlife was much like life on Earth. They preserved their bodies and included earthly possessions, believing that the dead would need them. |
| 1. Why did Ancient Egyptians have mummies?

A.E. believed that in the afterlife the soul would return to the body to receive food and offerings. The preserved appearance allowed the spirit to recognize the body.  |
| 1. Describe the mummification process.

The mummification process was expensive and took many months to complete. Workers carefully removed the organs, filled with natural salt, and stored for about 40 days. During this time the body dried out. Once dry, the body was cleaned and bathed in spices. Then, it was wrapped with long linen bandages. While the body was being prepared, artisans were busy creating the coffin. |
| **Chapter 3, Section 4 p. 93-95** |
| 1. How did Egyptian hieroglyphics work? Why did they begin to use this writing?

Pictures stand for ideas or things. The A.E. began using hieroglyphics because they needed a way to keep track of the kingdom’s growing wealth. |
| 1. What did Ancient Egyptians write on? Why did they choose this surface to write on?

A.E. wrote on clay and stone at first. Then they found papyrus and started using it. They chose papyrus because it was convenient.  |
| 1. What is the Rosetta Stone? Why is it important?

The Rosetta Stone was important because it translated hieroglyphics into other languages so modern people could learn what hieroglyphs meant. |
| 1. How did Ancient Egyptians keep track of time?

A.E. kept track of time by observing and mapping the stars. |
| 1. How did they use mathematics?

The A.E. used math in find solutions to problems. They could add, subtract, multiply, divide, and use simple fractions. They used math to measure stones and build the pyramids. They used geometry to measure area to figure out how much taxes a person owed on a plot of land. |
| 1. What medical treatments and medicines did the Ancient Egyptians use? Why were they so knowledgeable about the body?

Religion and medicine were closely related. Doctors were specially trained priests who used religious practices and their knowledge of illnesses to try to heal the sick. They knew a lot about the body due to the mummification process. By studying the body, they learned how to perform surgery and could set broken bones. They also understood herbalism and used many natural remedies to help ease every day illnesses (stomachaches, headaches). Moms used their own remedies to lower fevers. A.E. wrote most of their remedies and medical findings down on papyrus (Ancient Greeks and Romans actually used these records)!! |