

Tutankhamun's Tomb

Who

Found His Tomb?

The tomb was found by a group of researchers lead by Howard Carter.



It was discovered in 1922, which means that all of the treasures and the body inside had been left in very good condition.

Howard worked out from other important finds that the tomb would be in the Valley of the Kings. A man named Theodore Davis found a cup with Tutankhamun and his wife on it. This was a clue that helped Howard to find the tomb.



The burial chamber with the body was a very unusual resting place for a king because it was the only decorated room in the tomb.

Normally, all of the walls would be carved or painted, which is how we know that Tutankhamun died very suddenly. The images on the walls were from a ritual called the 'opening of the mouth'.

What

They Found Inside

Inside the tomb, they found over 3,000 treasures meant for Tutankhamun to take with him into the afterlife.

Many of the items were made from, or covered in, gold which was perfect for a king. The tomb was split into many different rooms. Most of the rooms were for the objects, apart from the burial chamber which just held a decorated stone coffin called a sarcophagus.

The Curse of the Mummy!

The curse of the mummy started after Tutankhamun's tomb was opened. Mummies have been thought to have magical powers and some people believe that they can curse anyone who disturbs them. It started when Lord Carnarvon, the man who paid for the dig of King Tut's tomb, died soon after it was opened. It is said that all of the lights in Cairo mysteriously went out as soon as he died.

Other stories are that Howard Carter's pet canary was killed by a cobra and Lord Carnarvon's dog died that same night. Some people believe that an unusual germ was released when the tomb was opened and that this caused Lord Carnarvon to become ill. Other people believe that it was magic.

Questions

1. Which year was Tutankhamun's tomb discovered? Tick **one**.

- ☐ 1992
☐ 1922
☐ 1912
☐ 1299

2. Where did Howard Carter find the tomb?

3. What is the name of the room that had the sarcophagus in? Tick one.

- ☐ tomb
☐ burial chamber
☐ sarcophagus area
☐ Tutankhamun

4. Draw **three** lines and match each person to their role in the discovery.

Lord Carnarvon

Paid all the workers who discovered the tomb.

Howard Carter

Found a cup that led to the discovery.

Theodore Davies

Discovered the tomb.

5. Tick the boxes to say whether the sentences are true or false.

Sentence	True	False
Some people think mummies can curse people who find them.		
Lord Carnarvon's cat died the same night as the canary.		
When Lord Carnarvon died, the lights went out in Egypt.		
Some people say Lord Carnarvon died from a germ.		

6. What is the name of the ritual that can be seen in the paintings in the burial chamber?

7. Do you believe the mummy's curse? Use the text to support your answer.

Answers

1. Which year was Tutankhamun's tomb discovered? Tick **one**.

✓ **1922**

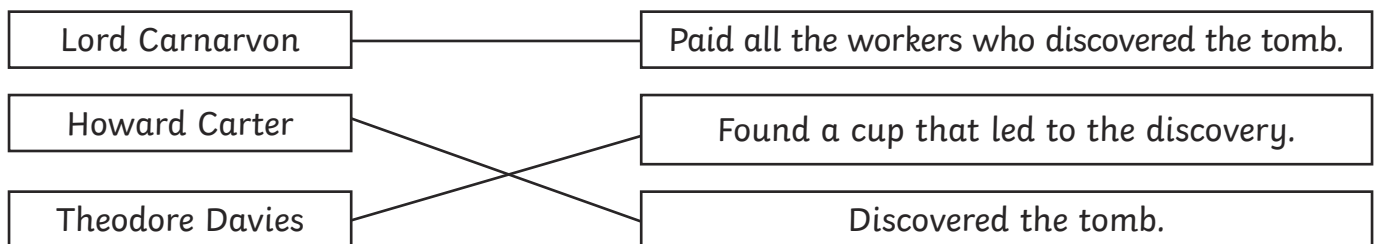
2. Where did Howard Carter find the tomb?

Howard Carter found the tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

3. What is the name of the room that had the sarcophagus in? Tick one.

✓ **burial chamber**

4. Draw **three** lines and match each person to their role in the discovery.



5. Tick the boxes to say whether the sentences are true or false.

Sentence	True	False
Some people think mummies can curse people who find them.	✓	
Lord Carnarvon's cat died the same night as the canary.		✓
When Lord Carnarvon died, the lights went out in Egypt.		✓
Some people say Lord Carnarvon died from a germ.	✓	

6. What is the name of the ritual that can be seen in the paintings in the burial chamber?

The ritual in the paintings of the burial chamber is called 'the opening of the mouth'.

7. Do you believe the mummy's curse? Use the text to support your answer

Pupil's own responses, such as, 'I believe in the mummy's curse because it is unusual for so many bad things to happen to Lord Carnarvon. He died soon after the tomb was discovered and for all the lights go out in Cairo is very strange. Also, his dog died too.'

Tutankhamun's Tomb

Who Found His Tomb?

The tomb was found by a group of researchers led by Howard Carter. Tutankhamun is one of the most famous and talked about pharaohs because his tomb was only found in 1922, which means that all of the treasures and the body inside had been left in very good condition.

Howard Carter knew where to look because he worked out from other important finds that the tomb would be in the Valley of the Kings. Howard Carter said that a cup, with Tutankhamun and his wife on it, was a clue that helped him find the tomb. The cup was found by a man called Theodore Davies.

What They Found Inside

Inside the tomb, they found over 3,000 treasures that were put in for Tutankhamun to take with him into the afterlife.

Many of the items were made from, or covered in, gold which was only fitting for a king to own.

The tomb itself was split into many different rooms. Most of the rooms were for the objects, apart from the burial chamber which just held his decorated stone coffin, called a sarcophagus.



Decoration

The burial chamber with the body was a very unusual resting place for a king because it was the only decorated room in the tomb.

Normally, all of the walls would be carved or painted, which is how we know that Tutankhamun died very suddenly. Many historians also believe that the tomb itself was not made for him in the first place and that the burial chamber and decorations were added later. The images on the walls were from a ritual called the 'opening of the mouth'.

The Curse of the Mummy!

Rumors about the curse of the mummy started after Tutankhamun's tomb was opened. Mummies have been thought to have magical powers over any who disturb them. It started with Lord Carnarvon who was the man who paid for the dig of King Tut's tomb as he died five months after it was opened. As soon as he died, all of the lights

in Cairo went out mysteriously. Other stories are that Howard Carter's pet canary was killed by a cobra and Lord Carnarvon's dog died that same night. Some people believe that an unusual germ was released when the tomb was opened and that this caused Lord Carnarvon to become ill. Other people believe that it was a magical curse.

Questions

1. Who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb? Tick one.

- ☐ Lord Carnarvon
- ☐ Theodore Davies
- ☐ Howard Carter
- ☐ Howard Carnarvon

2. Why is Tutankhamun one of the most famous pharaohs?

3. Explain, in your own words, how we know Tutankhamun died suddenly.

4. How many treasures were found inside the tomb?

- ☐ over 3,000
- ☐ over 300
- ☐ over 30,000
- ☐ over 30

5. **Find** and **copy** a word that means 'a religious ceremony'.

6. What happened five months after the tomb was opened? Tick one.

- ☐ Howard Carter died.
- ☐ Lord Carnarvon died.
- ☐ The tomb collapsed.
- ☐ Lord Carnarvon's cat died.

7. Fill in the missing words.

Most of the rooms were for the _____, apart from the
burial chamber which just held his _____ stone coffin.

8. Do you think Howard Carter believed in the mummy's curse?
Use the text to support your ideas.

Answers

1. Who discovered Tutankhamun's tomb? Tick one.

☒ **Howard Carter**

2. Why is Tutankhamun one of the most famous pharaohs?

Tutankhamun is one of the most famous pharaohs because his tomb was discovered quite recently (1922). This means that the artefacts and the body are in a good condition.

3. Explain, in your own words, how we know Tutankhamun died suddenly.

Accept any response that suggests Tutankhamun died before the tomb was finished, such as: 'We know Tutankhamun died suddenly because the tomb was not completely decorated. Usually a tomb for a king would have paintings in all of the rooms, but only his burial chamber had paintings in, so maybe he died before the tomb was ready for him.'

4. How many treasures were found inside the tomb?

☒ **over 3,000**

5. **Find** and **copy** a word that means 'a religious ceremony'.

ritual

6. What happened five months after the tomb was opened? Tick one.

☒ **Lord Carnarvon died.**

7. Fill in the missing words.

Most of the rooms were for the **objects**, apart from the
burial chamber which just held his **decorated** stone coffin.

8. Do you think Howard Carter believed in the mummy's curse?

Use the text to support your ideas.

Pupils' own responses, such as 'I believe Howard Carter might start to believe in the mummy's curse because of all of the things that happened to Lord Carnarvon and his dog.'

Tutankhamun's Tomb

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The tomb was found by a group of researchers led by Howard Carter. The reason why Tutankhamun is one of the most famous and talked about pharaohs is because his tomb was only found in 1922, which means that all of the artefacts and the body inside were in good condition.



Howard Carter knew where to look because he worked out from other important finds that the tomb would be in the Valley of the Kings. A cup found by a man named Theodore Davis, with Tutankhamun and his wife on it, was a clue that Howard Carter said helped him find the tomb of the Boy King.

What They Found Inside

Inside the tomb they found over 3,000 artefacts that were put in for Tutankhamun to take with him into the afterlife.

Many of the items were made from, or covered in, gold which was only fitting for a king to own.

The tomb itself was split into many different rooms. Most of the rooms were for the objects, apart from the burial chamber which just held his sarcophagus (a decorated stone coffin).



Decoration

The burial chamber with the body is the only decorated room in the tomb, which is very unusual for a resting place for a king.

Normally, all of the walls would be carved or painted, which is how we know that Tutankhamun died very suddenly. Many historians also believe that the tomb itself was not made for him in the first place and the burial chamber and decorations were added later.

The images on the walls were from a ritual called the 'opening of the mouth'.

The Curse of the Mummy!

Rumours surrounding the curse of the mummy started after Tutankhamun's tomb was opened. Mummies have been thought to have magical powers over any who disturb them. It started with Lord Carnarvon; the man who paid for the dig of King Tut's tomb died soon after it was opened.

As soon as he died, all of the lights in Cairo went out mysteriously. Other stories are that Howard Carter's pet canary was killed by a cobra and Lord Carnarvon's dog died the same night. Some people believe that an unusual germ was released when the tomb was opened and caused Lord Carnarvon to become ill. Other people believe that it was a magical curse.

Questions

1. How did Howard Carter know where to look for Tutankhamun's tomb?

- ☐ His tomb was only found in 1922.
- ☐ He worked it out from other important finds.
- ☐ Inside the tomb, they found over 3,000 artefacts.

2. Which word is closest in meaning to the word 'historical treasures'?

- ☐ afterlife
- ☐ artefacts
- ☐ decorated
- ☐ objects

3. Why are the artefacts described as '**fitting for a king**' to own?

4. Why might Howard Carter have been surprised to see that the burial chamber was the only room decorated?

5. Do you think Tutankhamun was an important king in his lifetime?

Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

6. Read the '**Who Found His Tomb?**' section. What other name is used to refer to Tutankhamun?

7. Fill in the table.

Sentence	True	False
The tomb had one room in it.		
Lord Carnarvon's dog died the same night as the canary.		
Theodore Davies discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun.		
When Lord Carnarvon died, all the lights went out in Cairo.		

8. Would you like to discover an ancient Egyptian tomb?

Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Answers

1. How did Howard Carter know where to look for Tutankhamun's tomb?

✓ **He worked it out from other important finds.**

2. Which word is closest in meaning to the word 'historical treasures'?

✓ **artefacts**

3. Why are the artefacts described as 'fitting for a king' to own?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The artefacts are described as 'fitting for a king' because that means it makes sense that a king should own them. The artefacts are covered in (or made from) gold, so we know they are expensive and precious, and like something a king should own.

4. Why might Howard Carter have been surprised to see that the burial chamber was the only room decorated?

Howard Carter might have been surprised that the burial chamber was the only room in the tomb decorated because usually all the rooms in a tomb were decorated for a king.

5. Do you think Tutankhamun was an important king in his lifetime?

Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think Tutankhamun was an important king in his lifetime because he was buried with over 3000 artefacts made from gold. If he wasn't important, they would not have buried him with them.

6. Read the 'Who Found His Tomb?' section. What other name is used to refer to Tutankhamun?

Tutankhamun is referred to as the 'Boy King'.

7. Fill in the table.

Sentence	True	False
The tomb had one room in it.		✓
Lord Carnarvon's dog died the same night as the canary.	✓	
Theodore Davies discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun.		✓
When Lord Carnarvon died, all the lights went out in Cairo.	✓	

8. Would you like to discover an ancient Egyptian tomb?

Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I would like to discover an ancient Egyptian tomb because I would love to find precious historical artefacts which have been thought of as lost for many years.