

Name _____

Date _____



Timelines & Chronology

History is deep, consider how:

We're living it at this very moment, right now.

A timeline makes it easy to look back and track

Where things were versus where they're at.

This is a timeline of ancient Egypt,

The title's up top if you don't believe it.

It shows events in the order they happened,

That's chronological, like time passing.

These events are marked on a line,

Representing the passage of time.

When it's horizontal, maybe you guessed,

Events are further in the past to the left.

And to the right, they happened more recently.

And these tiny marks, spaced equally,

Stand for 100 years between each one.

That's the scale, it helps show you what's what.

So you're trying to find out what came first between the

Rosetta Stone or the pyramids in Giza.

Just see which one is farthest to the left,

And the pyramids it is, you don't have to guess.

Or maybe you want to know how much time has passed

Between King Tut's tomb being found and the last

Time hieroglyphics were used, that's a math problem,

And you can look to the timeline to solve it.

They uncovered the tomb in 1922,

394 was the last hieroglyphic use.

Take those two numbers and subtract them, yeah,

That's 1,528 years.

If you see a timeline, show some respect,
They do more than most of y'all would expect.

A visual tool so that we can inspect
Connections, context, cause and effect.

(x2)

How do historians measure time in a way they can compare?

You can't always pinpoint an exact, specific year.

So they devised a system of divisions

To measure them better, now here it is, listen.

A decade is 10 years, a century: 100,

A millennium: 1000—got it? Now when

We mention centuries, well, it can get tricky,

'Cause we call the 1800s the 19th century.

This is because the years 1 through 100

Weren't the zero century, they were the first one.

On the other hand, eras, periods and ages

Don't have a set number of years, they just

Reference different stages, like see this knife

It's from the Bronze Age, when bronze was life.

People used it to make weapons and to make tools,

It was high technology, heavily used.

If you look closely, there are letters you'll see:

BC or BCE, AD or CE.

Those abbreviations are time designations,

Two popular systems, now let me explain them.

BC, AD: use the birth of Jesus Christ

To measure time based on the start of his life.

With the BCE system, the years are no different,

But it means "Common Era," not something religious.

So no matter what system is used,
The timeline won't change, yo, you can't lose.
If you don't know where you've been, you won't know where you're going,
Timelines are a road map made just to show us.

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