

Exercises of Student's Book

Lesson 4 and 5

Skills focus

Before you start

Look at the picture. Who are these people? What are they doing?

They are ancient Egyptian scribes; educated men who wrote official documents and kept records for the merchants, politicians and rulers of the day.

1 Listen to the words below in context. Try to guess their meaning.

temple, scribe, to represent, figure, combination

Audioscript

- 1. Look at that temple over there! It's so huge!
- 2. Excuse me, scribe. Could you write this down for me?
- 3. Alphabet is a set of letters used to represent the sounds of a language.
- 4. We got three geometric figures in our maths test. It was difficult!
- 5. The combination of the two colours red and yellow results in the colour orange.

Word	Meaning	
temple	معبد	
scribe	کاتب	
to represent	تمثل	
figure	شکل	
combination	تركيب	

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Find the words

- To be a symbol of something (to represent)
- A person in the past who copied out documents (scribe)
- The act of joining two or more things (combination)
- 2 Work in pairs. Try to answer these questions before reading the article.
 - 1. In which country was hieroglyphic writing originated?
 - 2. In which direction do you think hieroglyphic writing was read?
 - 3. Do you think there are any communities still using hieroglyphic writing today? Explain.

Students' own answers.

3 Now, read through the article and check your answers.

Answers

- 1. Hieroglyphic writing originated in Egypt.
- 2. Hieroglyphic writing was read in columns and in rows (either from left to right or from right to left).
- 3. Suggested answer: No, I don't. Hieroglyphic writing is too complex compared to our current writing systems, and it is not very practical anymore.

4 Answer the following questions.

- 1. What do the pronouns in bold refer to?
- 2. What do the underlined words in the article mean?
- 3. Do you agree with the article that our writing system today is

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much simpler? Why / Why not?

4. Do you think that, in the future, new writing systems might be developed and be even simpler than the one we have today? Justify your answer.

Answers

- 1. "They" in line 3 refers to "Scribes"; "they" in line 8 refers to "the Egyptians"; "they" in line 11 refers to "the Egyptians"; "them" in line 22 refers to "hieroglyphics"; "it" in line 38 refers to "a symbol".
- 2. developed: invented; useful: able to be easily used; work out: understand; combination: the state of being joined in one unit
- 3. Students' own answers
- 4. Students' own answers

5 What can you remember? Cover the text and correct the false information in the following sentences.

- 1. The Egyptians developed writing about sixteen centuries ago. 2. Scribes decorated their temples with clay.
- 2. Before they discovered papyrus, the Egyptians wrote on clay. 4. People wrote hieroglyphics only in rows.
- 5. You should read symbols in columns from left to right.
- 6. Symbols could have more than one meaning.

Answers

- 1. The Egyptians developed writing about 6,000 years ago.
- 2. Scribes decorated their temples with hieroglyphics.
- 3. The Egyptians didn't write on clay.
- 4. People wrote hieroglyphics in rows or columns.
- 5. In the case of a column, you must read from top to bottom.
- 6. Each symbol had up to three meanings.



7 Now, listen again and check your answers.

Answers

When someone writes lightly, he is calm.

A pencil can draw a line that's 55 km long. Red ink shows that someone is dominant. You can see the writing on a pencil when you use the right hand.

Writing using attached letters means you are cautious.

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