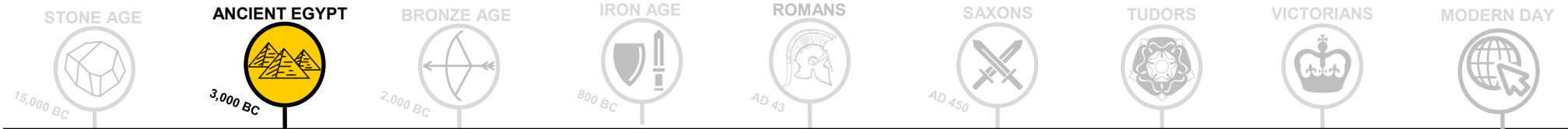


Year 3: WHAT DID THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS BELIEVE?

HISTORICAL CONTEXT



The afterlife



The Egyptians believed that after a person died, they travelled to the afterlife - a kind of paradise or heaven in which people became immortal. The journey to the afterlife was full of challenges, and at its end, the god Osiris decided whether a person would go to the afterlife or the underworld.

Gods and goddesses



The ancient Egyptians worshipped over 1,400 gods and goddesses, responsible for all aspects of daily Egyptian life. For example, Thoth was the god of writing. Temples were built for the gods, and festivals were dedicated in their honour.

Mummification



KEY VOCABULARY



AFTERLIFE: The place where Egyptians believed they would go after they died.



CANOPIC JARS: Special jars that held the organs of a mummy including the lungs, intestines, stomach and liver.



CIVILISATION: A large group of people with a common language, way of life and rule.



HIEROGLYPHICS: A type of writing that used a combination of symbols and pictures.



MUMMIFICATION: The process of preserving a body after death in preparation for the afterlife.



PHAROAH: The ruler of Ancient Egypt.



PYRAMID: A stone structure with a square base leading to a point at the top used as a royal tomb in Ancient Egypt.



SARCOPHAGUS: A large stone box that held a mummy's coffin and richly decorated for Pharaohs.

Pyramids of ancient Egypt

Located in North East Africa, ancient Egypt was divided into Upper and Lower Egypt. The River Nile flows through the country, which is mostly desert land. The pyramids of ancient Egypt were built to store Pharaoh's bodies in, to prepare them for the afterlife. Ancient Egyptians would not have had machinery at this time, so it is believed that they used sledges, ramps and pulleys to construct the pyramids.

