

## Key stage 2

### Pupil B – Piece B: a non-chronological report

Context: pupils explored the features of report writing and then wrote about Howard Carter as part of their work on Ancient Egypt.

#### The Discovery of a Lost Pharaoh

It is widely known to Egyptologists (historians who are interested in Ancient Egypt) that on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 1923, a major break-through into ancient history was made. It was on this date that Howard Carter, who was born in Norfolk, England, famously discovered the lost tomb of a long-gone pharaoh: the 18-year-old, King Tutankhamun. Carter's effort to persevere has influenced our knowledge of Ancient Egypt ever since.

#### About Howard Carter

Howard Carter was possibly the most famous Egyptologist who ever lived; even as a child, he loved history (especially the Ancient Egyptian civilisation). He studied to be an archaeologist and at the age of 17, he got his dream job in Egypt – copying Ancient Egyptian wall paintings and inscriptions on archaeological sites. However, that's where Carter's good fortune ceases: he was not a wealthy man and if he wanted to pursue his true dreams, he needed a sponsor. Fortunately, in 1907, he found the perfect man (Lord Carnarvon) with whom he shared the same passion. Ten years later, Carter and Carnarvon embarked on their first expedition to discover King Tut.

#### The Discovery

The ground-breaking discovery of the 19-year-old pharaoh (Tutankhamun) took five years in total. Five whole years of excruciating hard work until they finally found his tomb – it was worth it! After painstakingly uncovering the annexe, the duo were able to unearth a gateway which led into King Tut's burial chamber and after that, his treasury. In the burial chamber, there were four gilded shrines; each one bigger than the one inside. Furthermore, there were over three to four thousand items – each one a priceless artefact.

All of this was located 3.9m (13 ft) under the tomb of King Rameses VI in the Valley of the Kings (the traditional burial place of pharaohs).

#### The key events

It was 1918 when it all started: the dig for King Tut's tomb. But, it was the key events following this date which were equally as crucial; they commenced from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1922. It was on this date that the final season of working in The Valley of the Kings took place. Four days later – on November 9<sup>th</sup> – the first steps leading to Tutankhamun's tomb were unearthed. These led to a door sealed with brick and plaster. Eighteen days later, Lord Carnarvon and his daughter arrived at the dig. Subsequently, on the 26<sup>th</sup> November, a second door was opened and inside, was the

antechamber of the tomb. Finally, on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1923, Tutankhamun's tomb was opened and the concealed treasure rediscovered.

#### Howard Carter ... the most famous Egyptologist ever?

By studying Howard Carter, it is clear his discoveries have influenced history as we know it but whether or not he was the most famous, that is for you to decide.