

FOR THE STUDENT



Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II (CARS Series II) is a reading series that gives you practice with 12 reading strategies. You will complete four reading lessons. Each lesson has a reading passage and 12 questions about the passage. Each question helps you practise a certain reading strategy.

Once you have completed the four lessons, you will complete a self-assessment. This self-assessment will help you see how well you did.

Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II will help you become a better reader. You will also better understand what to look for as you read. This will help you get the most from your reading.

This *Comprehensive Assessment of Reading Strategies II* book was prepared for students by Deborah Adcock.

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Photographs on pages 2, 3 and 4 from www.arttoday.com

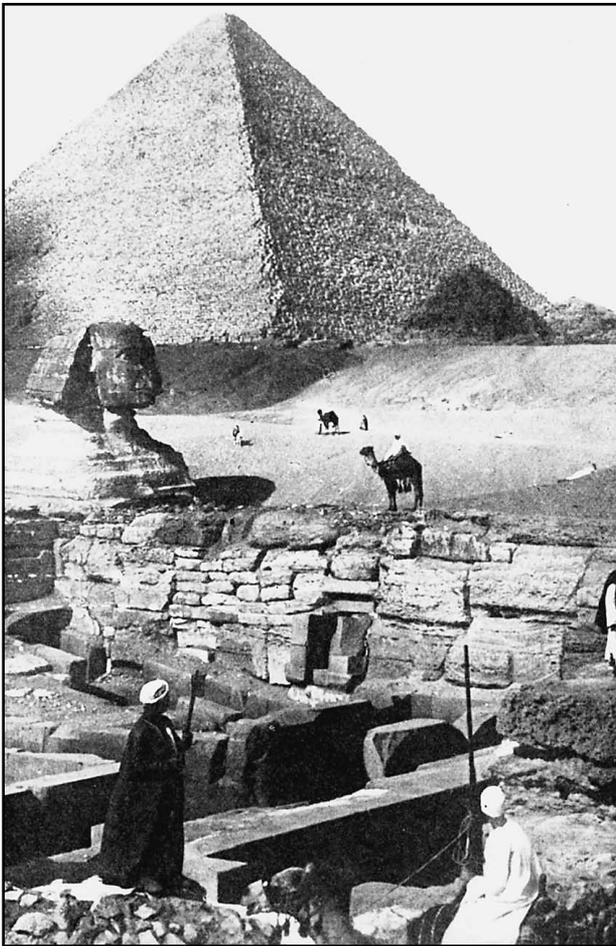


Here is an article about the ancient pyramids. Read the article.
Then do Numbers 1 through 12.

A Glimpse of the Past

Each year, millions of people visit the ancient pyramids of Egypt. Many become awed simply at the sight of these towering structures. Though they are an impressive tourist attraction, the pyramids once played a major role in the life of the Egyptians.

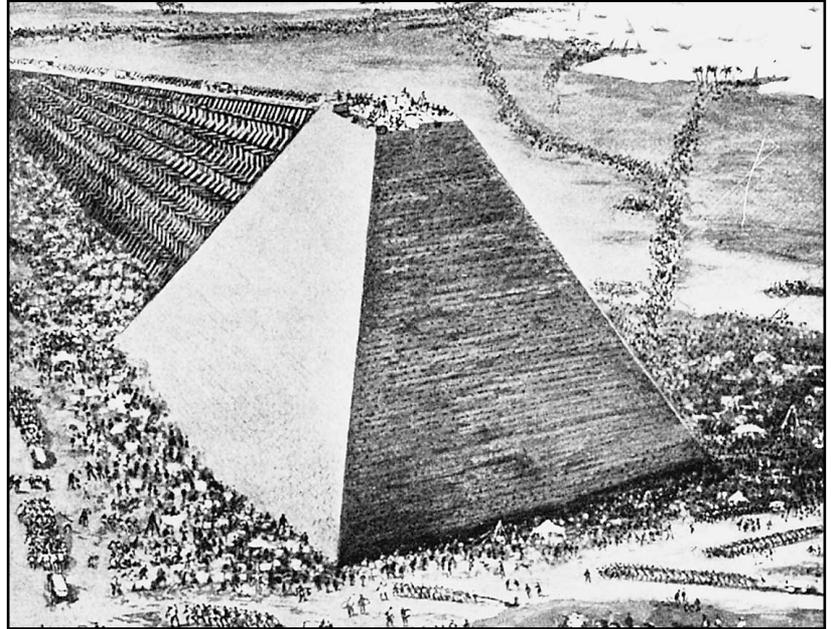
The pyramids are the oldest stone structures in the world. They are also among the world's largest buildings. The base of a pyramid is square, with four faces that narrow to a point at the top. Each face is a triangle. The Egyptians designed the pyramid so that each face was directed toward either the north, the south, the east, or the west. The Egyptians did not have the benefit of a compass to help them determine where each face of the pyramid should be constructed. Instead, they tracked the rising and setting of the sun.



Pyramids developed out of the ancient Egyptian belief in the afterlife, or life after death. Egyptians believed that after death, people began a new life in another world. In order to enter this world, the person's body must be preserved and protected. Egyptian kings, called pharaohs, wanted their bodies to last forever, so they had pyramids built as tombs to protect their bodies after death. Egyptian citizens believed that burying royalty in this way would bring them good luck.



Constructing a pyramid was like trying to build a mountain. It was an enormous undertaking, as well as a backbreaking one. Labourers spent long hours in the desert heat, hauling tonnes of stone blocks. These men built the pyramids without the help of modern tools or heavy equipment such as cranes and bulldozers. To make matters worse, the stones used to build most pyramids were not close at hand. Limestone and granite had to be mined in distant quarries. The quarries were located close to the banks of the Nile River. There, labourers shaped stone into blocks and then loaded the blocks onto barges. Men paddled the barges down the river to the building site. Sometimes, as many as 100,000 men worked year in, year out, on a single pyramid.



To transport the blocks from the river to the building site, labourers built a road, called a causeway. The men hauled the stone blocks down the causeway to the base of the pyramid. Finally, construction could begin. Large groups of men used wooden rollers to move the massive blocks. As work progressed, ramps were constructed along the sides of the pyramid. In this way, the blocks could be rolled up to the next level of construction. As each level of the pyramid was completed, the workers began another level. Each new level was smaller than the last.