

Name: _____ Date: _____



Have a look at the pictures of ancient Egyptian pyramids. They are pretty amazing! Think of three questions you would like to know the answer to, then use different sources to help you find the answers.

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

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Have a look at the pictures of ancient Egyptian pyramids. They are pretty amazing! Think of five questions you would like to know the answer to, then use different sources to help you find the answers.

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Question:

Answer:

Name: _____ Date: _____



Have a look at the pictures of ancient Egyptian pyramids. They are pretty amazing! Think of eight questions you would like to know the answer to, then use different sources to help you find the answers.

<p>Question:</p> <p>Answer:</p> 	<p>Question:</p> <p>Answer:</p>
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THE PALACE AT KNOSSOS

The Minoan civilisation was founded on the island of Crete and was the first civilisation in Europe. It was named after the legendary King Minos who was said to have been the son of the god Zeus and Europa who was a Phoenician princess.



The palace at Knossos was 14,000 square meters. This is bigger than two football pitches! It was made up of a maze of workrooms, living spaces and storerooms which were located around a central square.



The palace was partially destroyed in 1450 BC, again by a volcano or earthquake. At this time too, it is thought that the Mycenaeans invaded the Minoans. After this, the Minoan civilisation quickly declined.

Knossos was the Minoan capital. The palace at Knossos was first built around 1900 BC. It was destroyed around 1700 BC, perhaps by a volcano or earthquake. What was built in its place was one of the most elaborate palaces in history.



The palace wouldn't just have been where the royal family lived but would also have been the political centre. All the decisions for how to run the kingdom would have been made here by important men.



DAEDALUS AND ICARUS

There are many myths about Daedalus. It is said that he was the finest architect, artist and designer and that he invented tools such as the saw. Legend also states that he designed and built the palace at Knossos for King Minos, as well as a labyrinth that housed a fearsome beast. Some people think the labyrinth was a separate structure, but others think the palace itself might have been the labyrinth...

King Minos had a problem. Through a few disagreements with the gods, he found himself in charge of the Minotaur, a beast with the head of a bull and the body of a man. King Minos needed somewhere to keep the Minotaur so one day he asked Daedalus to build him a labyrinth.

"I need a place that is so complicated that no one will be able to find their way out once they have gone in," Minos told Daedalus, who was known to be a very clever man. Daedalus agreed and started building the labyrinth. He put in so many twists and turns and dead-ends that even the cleverest men wouldn't be able to get out.

Once the labyrinth was finished, King Minos threw Daedalus and his son Icarus inside and locked them in. He didn't want Daedalus telling anyone the secret of the labyrinth.

Daedalus and Icarus were trapped. Even though Daedalus knew how to get out, the gates were locked. "What will we do?" asked Icarus. Daedalus thought and thought until finally he had an idea.

"Start collecting all the feathers you can find," he told Icarus.

"Why?" Icarus asked.

"We are going to fly out of here!" replied Daedalus. He built frames from wood and stuck feathers to them using wax. Finally, he had built two pairs of wings. They attached the wings to their backs.

"Now remember," Daedalus told Icarus. "You must not fly too high."

"I won't," said Icarus, who was so excited to start flying that he was hardly listening.

They took off. Up and up they flew, over the walls, away from the palace and away from the land. They flew towards the sea, swooping and soaring. "I'm flying!" cried Icarus, who looked down suddenly and saw that his father was far below him. He saw one of his feathers floating down from his wings, then another and another. He was too close to the sun. The wax was melting.

Daedalus stared up in horror as he saw the wings fall apart. Icarus plunged into the sea and was never seen again.





Cut out these sentences then organise them into three piles to show which are **true**, which are **myth** and which are **unknown**.

The Minoans built a large palace in Knossos.

The palace at Knossos was made up of lots of rooms, passages and corridors.

Daedalus built the labyrinth.

The Minotaur had the head of a bull and the body of a man.

King Minos was the son of a god and a Phoenician princess.

Daedalus and Icarus escaped the labyrinth by building wings that could fly.

The Mycenaeans wanted to destroy the palace so the Minoans were less powerful.

Knossos was the capital of the Minoan civilisation.

Daedalus built the palace at Knossos.

A volcano destroyed the later palace at Knossos.

The palace at Knossos was around 14,000m².

The palace at Knossos was built mainly from stone.

An earthquake destroyed the first palace at Knossos.

Icarus' wings melted as he flew too close to the sun.

TRUE

MYTH

UNKNOWN

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