



Photo: Phil Sayer

Activity sheets

Discover writing and number systems in the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery

Part 1 Explore

Welcome to the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery (Room 4)

This gallery is full of many large-scale sculptures. Sculptures were an important feature of the great temples and tombs of ancient Egypt and they were believed to have powerful spiritual qualities.

Signs and Symbols

Signs and Symbols were a major part of ancient Egyptian culture. It was through symbols that the Egyptians represented many of their ideas, beliefs and attitudes regarding the nature of life, death, the supernatural and reality.

Task 1: Find a sculpture that you like

a) Copy the pose of this sculpture.
(you might need to work in a group to do this)

b) Who or what does the sculpture represent?

.....

c) What material is it made from?

.....

d) How do you think it got into the Museum?

.....

e) Draw your sculpture.



Task 2: Find 2 different hieroglyphic signs and draw them below

a) Sign 1



b) What sculpture was the sign on?

.....

c) What do you think it might mean?

.....

a) Sign 2



b) What sculpture was the sign on?

.....

c) What do you think it might mean?

.....

Part 2 Maths in action

Find this object
(Centre of the gallery)



This is the **Rosetta Stone**

This stone is from 196 BC. The message written is from the 13-year-old king Ptolemy V to the people of Egypt, who spoke either Egyptian or Greek.

The message is written in ancient Greek and in two different Egyptian scripts, one of which is hieroglyphs.

The Rosetta Stone is an incredibly important object as it has been the key to decoding ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs.

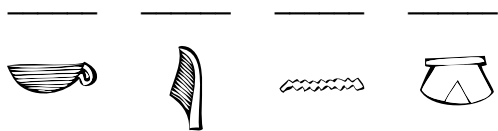
Task 1: Imagine you are a code breaker of the ancient Egyptian language

a	b	d	f	g
h	i	j	k	l
m	n	o,u,v,w	p	q
r	s	t	y	z

Ancient Egyptians used **hieroglyphic** writing, where different signs were used for different sounds.

Use the table of hieroglyphs to decipher these English words.

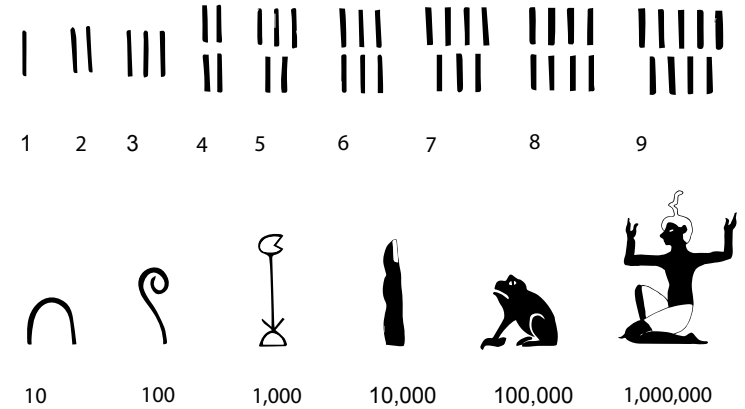
a)



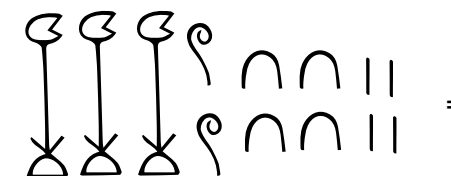
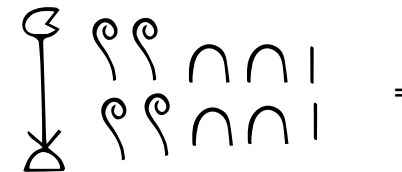
b)

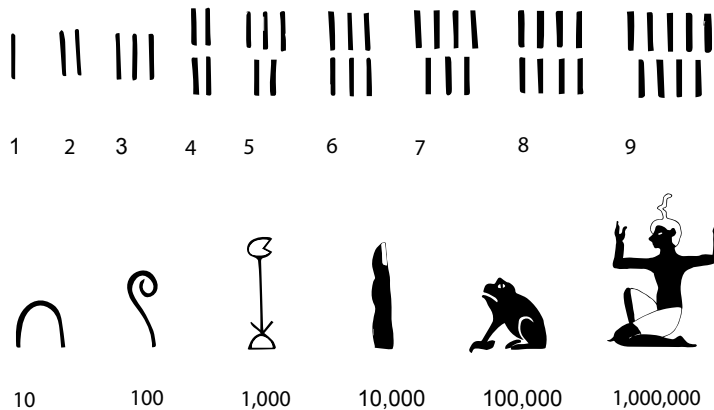


Task 2: Here are ancient Egyptian numbers



a) Convert these ancient Egyptian numbers to modern-day decimal numbers





b) Convert these modern-day decimal numbers to ancient Egyptian numbers

i) 222 =

ii) 13,245 =