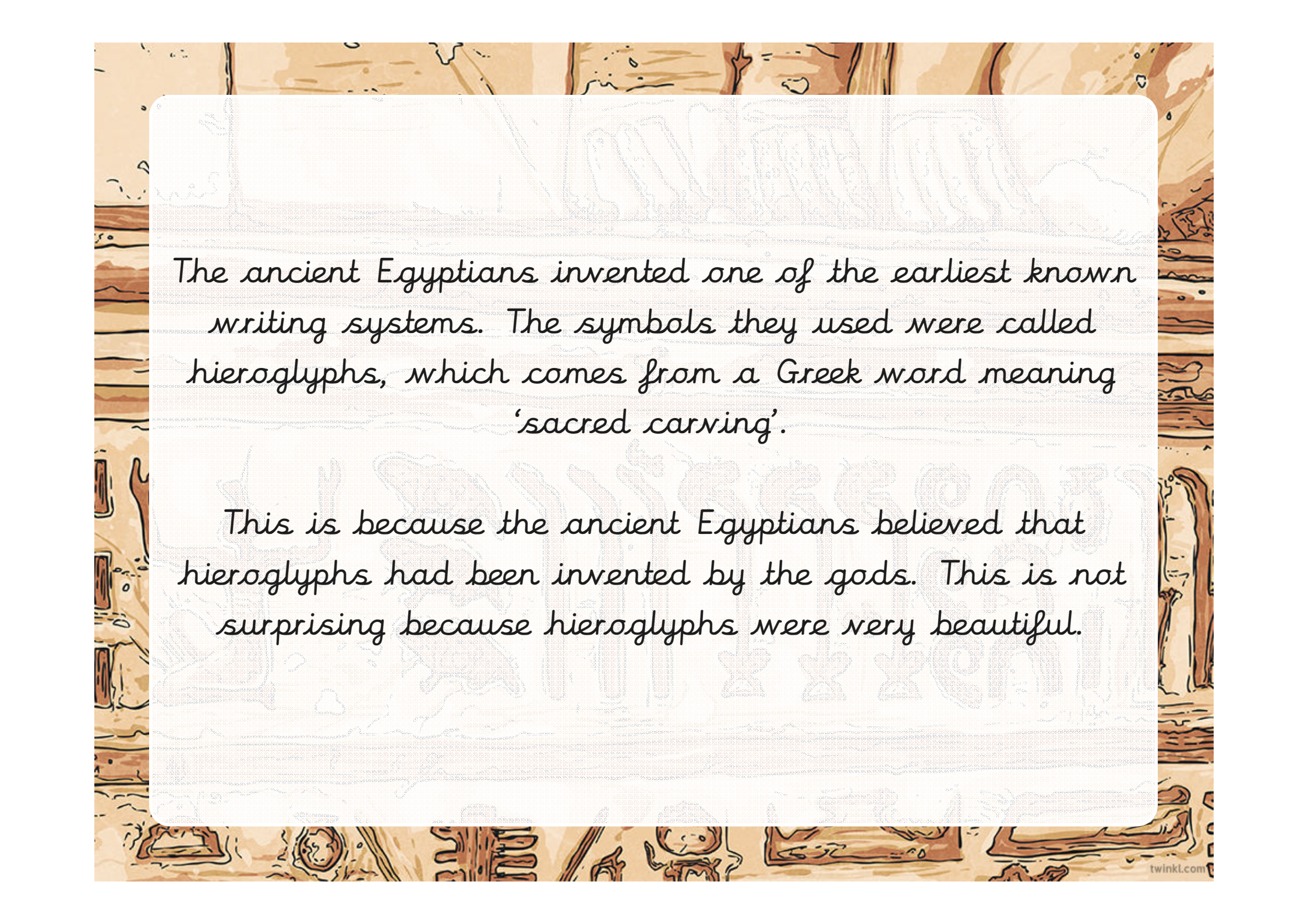


L.O. to identify hieroglyphs



The ancient Egyptians invented one of the earliest known writing systems. The symbols they used were called hieroglyphs, which comes from a Greek word meaning 'sacred carving'.

This is because the ancient Egyptians believed that hieroglyphs had been invented by the gods. This is not surprising because hieroglyphs were very beautiful.





























In Ancient Egypt, the people who wrote hieroglyphs were called scribes. A scribe had to go to a special school to learn how to do it, because it was very complicated.

Hieroglyphs included around 700 different signs of objects and animals. Some signs were pictorial or symbolic and stood for whole words. Some signs were phonetic, which means they stood for sounds.



Hieroglyphs could be written vertically, horizontally, left to right, or right to left! The phonetic hieroglyph alphabet is the closest version to our modern English alphabet. It is not exactly the same because the ancient Egyptians did not have symbols for vowels ('a', 'e', 'i', 'o' or 'u'), but the alphabet below includes the closest sounds.

<b>A</b> 	<b>B</b> 	<b>C</b> 	<b>D</b> 	<b>E</b> 	<b>F</b> 	<b>G</b> 
<b>H</b> 	<b>I</b> 	<b>J</b> 	<b>K</b> 	<b>L</b> 	<b>M</b> 	<b>N</b> 
<b>O</b> 	<b>P</b> 	<b>Q</b> 	<b>R</b> 	<b>S</b> 	<b>T</b> 	<b>U</b> 
<b>V</b> 	<b>W</b> 	<b>X</b> 	<b>Y</b> 	<b>Z</b> 		

Most of the pictures can stand for the object they represent, but usually they stand for sounds. In Egyptian, the owl stands for the sound "m". The Egyptian symbol for a mouth can mean mouth but it's usually read as the sound "r". You can't exactly match our alphabet to hieroglyphics, because they are two very different languages, but historians have come up with a simplified translation of our letters and Egyptian hieroglyphs.

Hieroglyphics can be pictures of living creatures, objects used in daily life or symbols. Some are easy to identify, some confusing and some impossible! If you look at the alphabet chart, you can easily spot the foot, the hand, the lion and the owl, but why are there two different kinds of snakes?

From A to Sh, the hieroglyphic symbols are:



a



b



c



d



e



f



g



h



i



j



k



l



m



n



o



p



q



r



s



t



u



v



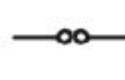
w



x



y



z



A an Egyptian vulture  
B a foot  
C a basket with handle  
D a hand  
E a reed  
F a horned viper (an Egyptian snake)  
G a jar-stand  
H a reed shelter  
I a reed  
J a cobra  
K the basket with the handle again (because hard "C" is like "K")  
L a lion  
M an owl  
N a zigzag symbol for water  
O a lasso  
P a square stool

Q a symbol for the slope of a hill  
R a mouth  
S a piece of linen folded over  
T a bun  
U a quail chick (which stands for the sound "U")  
V a horned viper  
W a quail chick  
X a basket and folded linen  
Y two reeds  
Z a door bolt  
CH a hobble  
KH a ball of string  
SH the rectangle (which is the symbol for land)



Use the hieroglyph symbols to help you solve the puzzle.



a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

j



k

l

m

n

o

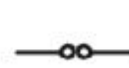
p

q

r

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u

v

w

x

y

z

# ANSWER

