

WALT (history): Compare some of the times studied with those of the other areas of interest around the world (M3)

Basic

Label the correct picture below as either Mayan or Egyptian hieroglyphics.

1) Egyptian hieroglyphics



2) Mayan hieroglyphics



Advancing

Compare and contrast the Mayan and Egyptian writing systems. Write a detailed paragraph explaining about the similarities and differences between the two amazing inventions.

Similarities

During the Mayan and Egyptian times, both civilisations invented an amazing writing system using symbols called hieroglyphs. One key similarity is how in both times, only the rich and well educated scribes could learn hieroglyphics, but only the Mayan created impressive books called codices. They both used stone slabs to carve the hieroglyphs into, which could represent either sounds or full words although the signs and symbols could be quite different. Both civilisations' writing systems were similar but since they were completely different times, very different.

Differences

The Mayan's writing system was similar to the Egyptian's but also very different with over 500 symbols while the Egyptians were racing ahead with over 700. Here are some differences: The Egyptian hieroglyphics could be written from left to right, right to left, top to bottom or bottom to top

but the Mayan wrote in only 1 way. The Egyptians used a range of materials to write on like stone and papyrus (paper) while the Mayans used mainly stone.