

Writing Then and Now

Week 4 • Thursday • From Hieroglyphics to Emojis

Reading Time

Did you know that YOU use picture writing too? Every time someone sends an emoji — a smiley face, a heart, a thumbs-up — they are using little pictures to share ideas, just like the ancient Egyptians did with hieroglyphics!

Of course, a lot has changed. Egyptians carved words into stone with chisels or painted them on papyrus with reed brushes. Writing one page could take a very long time. Today we tap letters on keyboards and screens, and our words can zoom across the world in one second.

But writing does the same job now as it did 5,000 years ago: it saves our ideas so others can read them — even people far away, or people born long after us. When you write in this workbook, you are making history too!

Reading Questions

1. How are emojis like hieroglyphics?

2. What tools did Egyptians use to write?

3. What job has writing done for 5,000 years?

Then or Now?

Write THEN for ancient Egypt, NOW for today, or BOTH.

Statement	THEN, NOW, or BOTH?
Writing with pictures to share ideas	
Carving words into stone walls	
Typing on a keyboard	
Writing on papyrus with a reed brush	
Sending a message across the world in a second	
Saving ideas for people in the future	

True or False

Write T for true or F for false in each circle.

- ☐ Emojis are little pictures that share ideas.
- ☐ Egyptians typed hieroglyphics on keyboards.
- ☐ Writing saves ideas so others can read them later.
- ☐ Egyptians wrote on papyrus with reed brushes.
- ☐ Writing today can travel across the world in a second.

Write an Emoji Message

Write a short message to a family member using ONLY pictures you draw — no letters allowed!

Then show it to them. Can they figure out what you said? That is how tricky reading hieroglyphics was before the Rosetta Stone!

Think About It

1. Was it easy or hard for your family member to read your picture message? Why?

2. What message would you carve in stone for kids 1,000 years from now?

Review

I learned...	Circle one
How writing has changed	YES / NOT YET
How emojis are like hieroglyphics	YES / NOT YET