

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

WARM-UPS

CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics you are interested in, which do not look interesting and which look really boring:

Egypt / Tutankhamen / Egyptian kings / forensic science / portraits / facial features / noses / ears / chins / lotus blossoms

Have a chat about the topics you liked. For more conversation, change topics and partners frequently.

TUTANKHAMEN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with Tutankhamen. Share your words with your partner / group and talk about them.

MY FACE: In pairs. Use the vocabulary in Worksheet A to briefly write down a description of your face. After you have finished, do the same for your partner. Compare your descriptions of each other. Try to agree where there are differences of opinion.

EGYPT WORDS: In pairs / groups, brainstorm as many words as you can that you associate with Egypt. After you have finished, visit other partners or groups to exchange words. Explain the meanings if the other students don't know them. Back with your original partner / group, put the words into lists – you must choose the category titles. Use these lists to make mini-presentations on Egypt to another group or the whole class.

I AM KING / QUEEN TUT: Imagine you are an ancient Egyptian ruler. Talk to your partner or group - also (an) ancient Egyptian ruler(s) – about your daily lives in Egypt. Some of the following words might be useful:

breakfast / clothes / today's duties / my rivals / sport / hobby / law making / pets / diplomacy / my subjects / love / new statues / dinner / bed ...

Repeat this activity by being the ancient rulers of your own country.

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

Worksheet A

Feature	Me	My partner
Hair		
Hairline		
Forehead		
Eyebrows		
Eyes		
Eyelashes		
Nose		
Cheeks		
Chin		
Ears		
Mouth		
Lips		

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

PRE-READING

WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'facial' and 'feature'.

TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article's headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

- a. Archaeologists have found the face of boy king Tutankhamen. T / F
- b. Forensic scientists have reconstructed a lifelike image of Tutankhamen. T / F
- c. An American team reconstructed Tutankhamen's face in a dark room. T / F
- d. A U.S. team identified a skull as being Caucasoid North African. T / F
- e. Ancient portraits depict Tutankhamen as a bear. T / F
- f. The young pharaoh supposedly had chubby cheeks. T / F
- g. Scientists disagreed on details of Tutankhamen's facial extremities. T / F
- h. An Egyptologist said the new images are very similar to ancient ones. T / F

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------|
| a. | king | whereas |
| b. | while | exhibit |
| c. | purposely | plump |
| d. | in the dark | tips |
| e. | bear | ruler |
| f. | striking | uninformed |
| g. | resemblances | deliberately |
| h. | extremities | similarities |
| i. | chubby | depicted |
| j. | shown | uncanny |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----------------|
| a. | brought | resemblances to |
| b. | forensic | features |
| c. | reconstructed | in the dark |
| d. | kept | of the skull |
| e. | bear striking | artists |
| f. | the proportions | of the three |
| g. | facial | similar |
| h. | chubby | to life |
| i. | remarkably | cheeks |
| j. | look the more Egyptian | images |

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

READING:

SPOT THE MISTAKES: Half of the words in bold are right and half are wrong. Circle the incorrect words and try to replace them with words that fit.

The face of Tutankhamen

BNE: Three teams of scientists from around the **cosmos** have brought to life the face of Tutankhamen, the 3,300-year-old Egyptian king. Forensic **actors** in Egypt, France and America reconstructed images of the **boy** king's face using computerized scans of his skull. While the Egyptian and French teams knew whose face they were **reconstructing**, the Americans were purposely kept in the **light**. Regardless, the U.S. team correctly identified the **skeleton** as that of a Caucasoid North African. All of the images **bear** striking resemblances to ancient portraits of Tutankhamen. The teams came close on the proportions of the skull and on facial features, differing only in the **degree** of details in the face's extremities – the shape of the nose, ears and chin. All teams gave the young pharaoh chubby **hair**. The Secretary-General of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities Zahi Hawass said: "The shape of the face and skull are remarkably similar to a famous image of Tutankhamen as a child, where he was shown as the sun god at dawn **rising** from a lotus blossom." Mr. Hawass also commented that the Egyptian team's face did look the more Egyptian of the **three**.

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

DISCUSSION

- a. What did you think of this article?
- b. Do you want to know more about anything in particular?
- c. Are you interested in Tutankhamen?
- d. Are you interested in ancient Egypt?
- e. What do you know of ancient Egypt and the pharaohs?
- f. Would you like to have lived in Egypt at that time?
- g. Would you like to be an archaeologist?
- h. Have you ever seen a mummy?
- i. Have you ever seen any mummy horror movies?
- j. Would you like to go to the Valley of the Kings to visit Tutankhamen's tomb?
- k. How useful is forensic science?
- l. Would you like to be a forensic scientist or artist?
- m. What is your image of modern day Egypt?
- n. Tutankhamen became king when he was nine. What kind of things do you think he had to do every day?
- o. Did you like talking about Egypt and mummies etc?
- p. Teacher / Student additional questions.

SPEAKING 1:

MY TOMB: Imagine you are an ancient Egyptian pharaoh. Decide what items (between 5 to 10) you want to be buried with in your tomb. You will have these things when you wake up in the afterlife. Tell your partner the items you chose and why you chose them. Although you are an ancient Egyptian pharaoh, you can put modern day things in your tomb.

When your partner is telling you what he/she wants in his/her tomb, do your best to persuade them it's a bad thing to take to the afterlife.

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

SPEAKING 2:

CHILD MONARCH: You are ten years old. As king/queen, you are the ruler of your country. You want your country to be a wonderful place for children. In pairs / groups, write down the things important to children. Decide what to do about the things you wrote down. Write down the details of these decisions in the table.

IMPORTANT THINGS	MY DECISIONS
a.	
b.	
c.	
d.	
e.	
f.	
g.	
h.	
i.	
j.	

Change partners. With new partners, discuss each other's important things and decisions. Give feedback on your partner's decisions and his / her worthiness to be king / queen.

Find this and similar lessons at <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com>

The face of Tutankhamen (Thu 12 May, 2005)

HOMEWORK

- 1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.
- 2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find information on Tutankhamen. Share your findings with your class in the next lesson.
- 3. MY FACIAL FEATURES:** Write a report describing your facial features in the tiniest of details. Imagine the report will be given to a portrait artist who has to reconstruct a perfect image from your description. Show your report to your classmates in your next lesson. They will provide feedback on its accuracy.
- 4. PHARAONIC DIARY:** Write your journal / diary entry for one day in your life as a pharaoh in ancient Egypt. Read it to your partner(s) next class.

TEXT

SPOT THE MISTAKES:

The face of Tutankhamen

BNE: Three teams of scientists from around the **world** have brought to life the face of Tutankhamen, the 3,300-year-old Egyptian king. Forensic **artists** in Egypt, France and America reconstructed images of the boy king's face using computerized scans of his skull. While the Egyptian and French teams knew whose face they were reconstructing, the Americans were purposely kept in the **dark**. Regardless, the U.S. team correctly identified the **skull** as that of a Caucasoid North African. All of the images bear striking resemblances to ancient portraits of Tutankhamen. The teams came close on the proportions of the skull and on facial features, differing only in the degree of details in the face's extremities – the shape of the nose, ears and chin. All teams gave the young pharaoh chubby **cheeks**. The Secretary-General of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities Zahi Hawass said: "The shape of the face and skull are remarkably similar to a famous image of Tutankhamen as a child, where he was shown as the sun god at dawn rising from a lotus blossom." Mr. Hawass also commented that the Egyptian team's face did look the more Egyptian of the three.