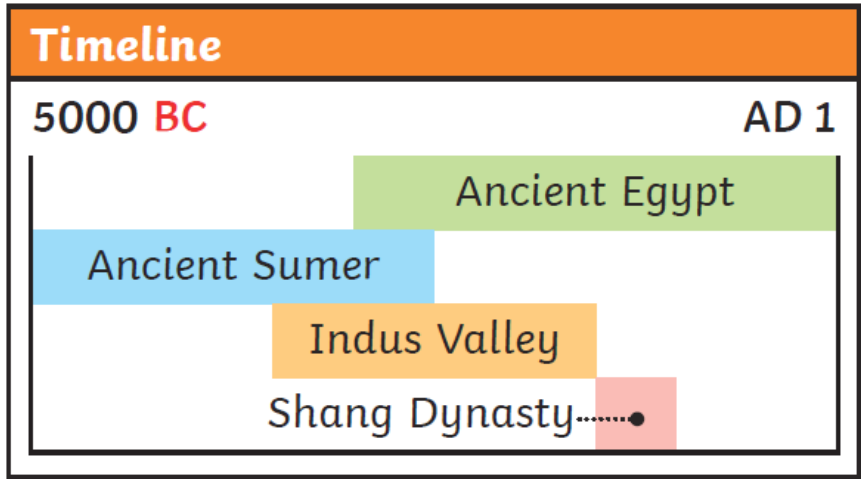


# How did the civilisation of Ancient Egypt both rise and fall?



## The Rosetta Stone

The Rosetta Stone is an important artefact that was discovered in 1799. It has an inscription in **hieroglyphs** and two other languages – ancient Greek and Demotic, a more common Egyptian way of writing. It took linguists 20 years to translate the **hieroglyphs** by comparing the languages. We can now read the **hieroglyphs** found on many other artefacts, including on **cartouches**, to find out about different aspects of Egyptian life.

**Mummification** When they died, pharaohs and important or wealthy people in ancient Egypt were mummified. Their organs, with the exception of the heart, were removed. Their body would then be dried in natron salt and wrapped in linen fabric with amulets and a Book of the Dead to take with them in the next life. The mummy would then be put in a sarcophagus (decorated coffin) and placed in a tomb. Ordinary Egyptians were simply buried in the desert.

ancient	sources	artefacts	cartouche
pyramid	civilisation	archaeologist	rediscovery
invention	curse	mummify	irrigation
trade			sacred

