**Historical Narrative – Ancient Egypt**

5,000 years ago, there was a fascinating civilization known as Ancient Egypt. This incredible civilization existed from 3100 BC to 332 BC. We learn about Ancient Egypt from the amazing things they left behind – like big, pointy pyramids, the mysterious Great Sphinx, and even mummies!

Now, the pyramids were (and are) truly magical. Teams of clever Egyptian workers, including inspectors and special builders, worked together to build them. Contrary to what some people think, it wasn't slaves who built the pyramids. Instead, many were hardworking farmers who built during the seasons when farming wasn't possible. Some believe it was like a big thank-you gift to the gods or a way of showing respect to the king. It took around 20,000 to 30,000 people over 80 years to build the Giza pyramid! Inside the pyramids were like giant puzzle boxes. Three chambers were built – one below ground, one above, and one high up. The high-up chamber held the sarcophagus, a fancy stone case for the king's mummy. This special chamber had a shaft pointing to the stars, guiding the king to eternal life.

When the Egyptologists explored these pyramids, they found secret passages, chambers, and even trap doors to keep out grave robbers! The walls were covered in hieroglyphics – like magical pictures telling stories. These stories helped the pharaoh on his journey to the afterlife and warned robbers to stay away. Hieroglyphics were like Ancient Egyptian emojis. They were pictures and symbols telling stories about their lives, work, and families. The rich Egyptians had fancy tombs, making it easier for us to learn about their lives. SO what was life like then?

Ancient Egyptian society was like a big pyramid too. At the top were the super-important pharaohs, followed by military leaders, scribes, priests, and tax collectors. Farmers were next, and at the bottom were the slaves. Most Egyptians were farmers, and kids started working around the age of 12. Women spent their days baking bread, collecting water, and taking care of the home. Their houses were made of mud bricks, with rooms for storage and even bread ovens!

Egyptians had a tasty diet – bread, fruit, veggies, herbs, and spices. Donkeys helped carry water from the Nile to villages. They had a unique way of using a stool with a hole and a bowl of sand for going to the toilet!

Reading and writing were skills only priests, scribes, and royalty learned. Egyptians loved playing music and had cool instruments like harps. They also enjoyed games like sennet, and instead of pillows, they used headstands.

Wigs and jewellery were a fashion statement for the wealthy. Egyptians visited temples to pray to gods and believed in the afterlife. Mummification was a fascinating process to ensure a safe journey to the afterlife. It involved removing organs, drying, wrapping, and placing amulets and scrolls for protection.

Now, across the ancient world, in places like the Indus Valley, Sumer, and Shang Dynasty, people also had amazing civilizations similar to the Ancient Egyptians. Some of the similarities all these civilisations from that time share are that they all built impressive cities, had some-form of writing, believed in gods, and even played games. There were also differences between then however but despite their differences, they shared some cool things in common with the Egyptians, making our ancient world a pretty remarkable and connected place!