

Hieroglyphs

The drawings that made up the ancient Egyptian language were called hieroglyphs. Hieroglyphs could represent what they looked like. A picture of a foot, for example, might have stood for the word walking. A picture of a boat might have stood for the word travel. But using pictures for writing can be confusing. A foot could also mean kicking, or dancing, or simply, a foot.

As time went by, the pictures came to stand for certain sounds instead of whole words. That way the Egyptians could spell out words, much as we do today.

 A Vulture	 B Foot	 C Basket	 D Hand	 E Reed	 F Viper
 G Jar Stand	 H House	 I Reed	 J Cobra	 K Basket	 L Lion
 M Owl	 N Water	 O Lasso	 P Stool	 Q Hill	 R Mouth
 S Folded Cloth	 T Bread Loaf	 U	 V Chick	 W Chick	 X Basket
 Y Two Reeds	 Z Door Bolt	 TH Rope	 SH Pool	 Woman	 Man

Try using the chart on the opposite page to translate the following words:



Answer: _____



Answer: _____



Answer: _____