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

Answer: _________________________

Answer: _________________________

Answer: _________________________