**Stage 1 Ancient Studies**

**Assessment Type 2: Inquiry**

**Topic 5: Beliefs, ritual and mythology: Egyptian tombs and belief in the Afterlife**

**Task description:**

This inquiry enables students to:

* investigate an aspect of an ancient society or culture
* select appropriate sources and evidence by considering their authenticity, relevance, reliability, bias, audience, and context
* apply inquiry skills to analyse and synthesise evidence
* argue an informed and persuasive point of view about an idea, innovation, event, person, or aspect of life from the selected society or culture
* communicate findings in an appropriate form, taking into account the context, purpose, and audience
* appropriately acknowledge sources.

Students need to choose one of these, and complete either 1000 words or a maximum of 6 minutes for an oral presentation, or the equivalent in multimodal form-

**Part A: The tombs**

Students begin by chronologically outlining the changes that occurred in Ancient Egyptian graves starting from the simple cliff –top pit grave through to Mastabas, step pyramids, true pyramids, and then the Valley of the King/Queen tombs. Outline how they were built, what they were made of and whythe changes occurred.

**Part B: Mummification**

Students may consider the funerary ritual of mummification and the changes that occurred to it during Ancient Egypt’s history. Possibly begin with how preservation was discovered and how that led to mummification. Consider the cost of mummification, who was mummified and ‘shortcuts’ that were made to the process as part of the investigation.

**Part C: Ritual and mythology**

Students research a ritual such as *Opening of the Mouth* or a myth: *Weighing of the Heart* or *Isis’ search for Osiris* that has an impact on funerary practices or explains a belief connected to the afterlife. Did these myths and rituals change as Ancient Egyptian society progressed? If so why did a change occur? If not, why not?

In this task you should demonstrate

KU2 Recognition of, and reflection on, life in the ancient world, including beliefs, attitudes, and/or values

RA1 Research into and analysis of primary and secondary sources and perspectives

RA2 Research into and understanding of ideas and innovations that emerged from the ancient world, and consideration of their influence

A2 Communication of ideas and arguments, using subject-specific language