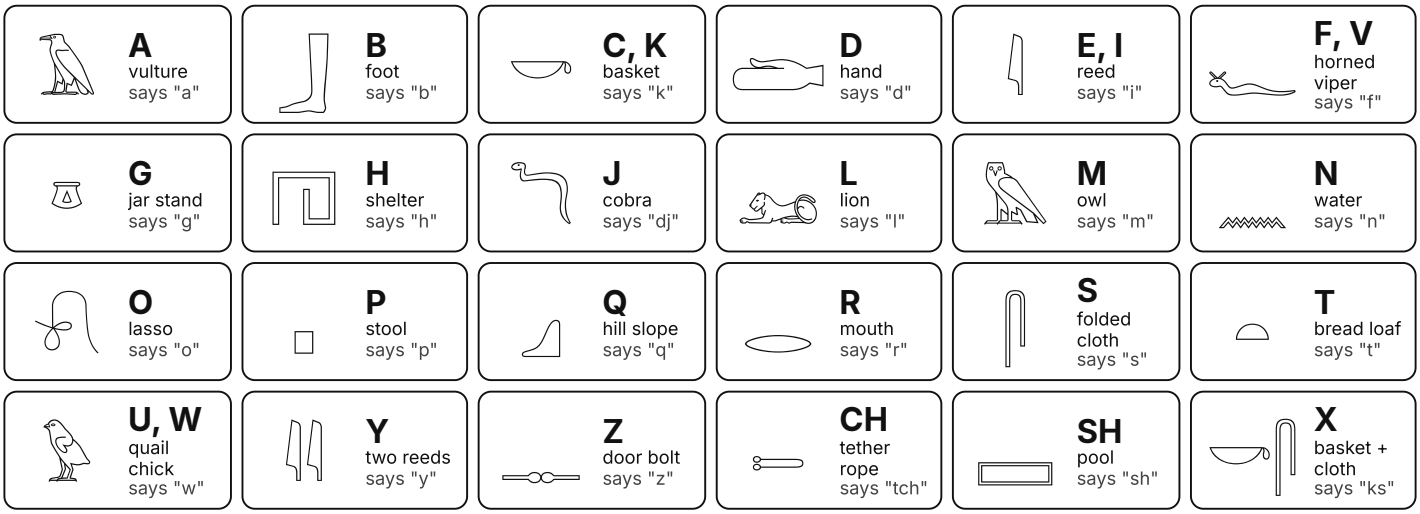
Name _____

DECODE THE HIEROGLYPHS

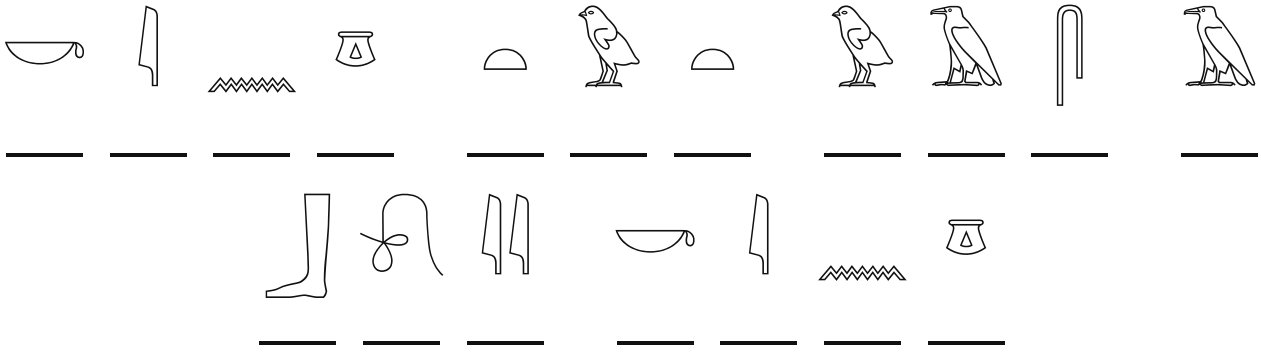
Egyptian scribes wrote with about 700 picture signs. Some signs stood for a single sound, a bit like our letters. This chart matches those sound signs to English letters so you can write a secret code. (Real Egyptian left out most vowels, so it is a simplified version.) The animals face the start of the line: these face left, so read from left to right.

THE KEY



A MESSAGE FROM THE TOMB

Find each sign in the key and write its letter on the line under it. One sign can stand for two letters (the quail chick is U or W). Pick the one that makes a word.



Bonus: an Egyptian word

Decode the first three signs. The sitting cat at the end is not read: it shows the word means a cat.



Say it out loud. What does it sound like?

Write your name in hieroglyphs

Kings and queens wrote their names inside an oval called a cartouche. Spell your first name with signs from the key, one sound at a time.

Now write a secret word for a friend: _____

Their answer: _____

DECODE THE HIEROGLYPHS: KEY

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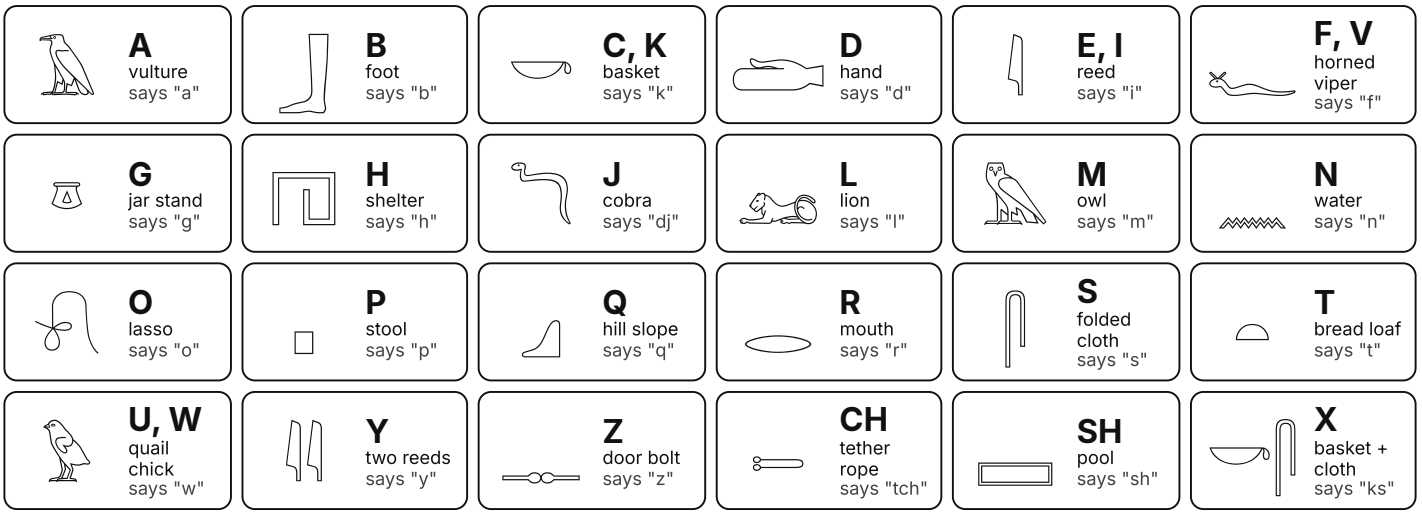

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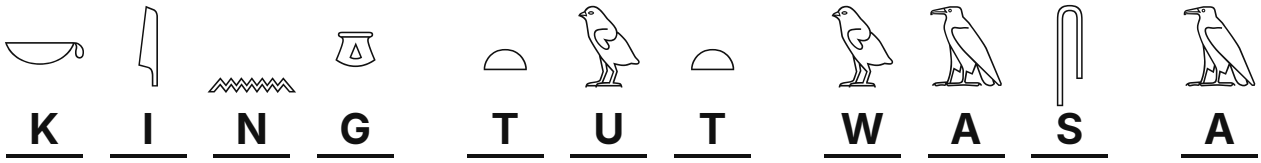

K I N G T U T W A S A



B O Y K I N G

Bonus: an Egyptian word

Decode the first three signs. The sitting cat at the end is not read: it shows the word means a cat.



M I U/W

MIU or MIW (Egyptian *miw*): it sounds like a cat's meow.

Write your name in hieroglyphs

Answers will vary. Check that each sound has the sign from the key, the name sits inside the cartouche, and the signs face the start of the line.

The message reads **KING TUT WAS A BOY KING**. Tutankhamun became pharaoh at about age 9 and died at about 19.

Tricky signs: the reed is E or I, the quail chick U or W, and the basket C or K.