

Egypt: Gift of the Nile

Additional Geography Notes

Definitions to Know:

1. Source = _____ of a river
2. Mouth = _____ of a river
3. Delta = (pg. A12-13 in textbook!)
4. Kemet =
5. Cataract =

Egypt is often referred to as the Gift of the Nile because the river provides _____ in a region that is surrounded by _____.

The land along the river was called “_____” or black land. The soil was rich and black-perfect for farming.

The Nile River has many cataracts, or _____, that make navigating the river very difficult. Read the account below.

“The rising roar of the rapids is in our ears. We can see no opening for our boat to pass. But we are preparing to go on. Ropes are carried out forward over the rocks. More men appear to help us... at least 90. The boat is to be drawn along close to the shore so that the current cannot get hold of the boat and send us dashing to pieces on the rocks... Unexpectedly a passage opens to the left. If we enter it, nothing would seem to be able to hold the boat from dashing down amidst the breakers. What should happen if the ropes should break!... The Nubian men are hauling on the ropes, we are working inch by inch through, everybody on board trembling with excitement.”

- Charles Dudley Warner, 1875

Trade:

Why is it important for people to trade with Egypt?

Why is it important for people to trade with Nubia?

Travel along the Nile:

The Egyptians were able to trade and travel along the Nile River by traveling both to the _____ and to the _____.

What would the Egyptians have to have created in order to travel against the current of the Nile River?