

Planning an explanation text:

Title:	How did the Egyptians mummify bodies?	Checklist
Introduction: What is being explained? Hook the reader in.	Have you ever wondered...? Did you know...? Why did the Ancient Egyptians mummify bodies? Read on to...	Have you included...
Explain how the Egyptians mummified the bodies in time order. First, then, next etc	Body washed- why? Organs removed- how and why? What was left behind- why? Where were the organs put? The body is stuffed? Why? What with? What was wrapped around the body? Why? Then what was put over the body? Where was the body put and why?	A clear title to show what is being explained?
Conclusion	As a result... Consequently, Therefore	An opening statement to introduce the process?
Extra fact	Did you know...?	Clear steps to show how or why something occurs?
		The events in order?
		Conjunctions of time (e.g. before, after)?
		Causal conjunctions (e.g. because, so, this causes, therefore, thus, consequently)?
		Illustrations/diagrams/flow charts to make explanation clearer?

Causal Conjunctions and Adverbials



accordingly	as	as a result	because
by	consequently	due to	for this reason
hence	in consequence	in order to	in this way
otherwise	since	so	so that
subsequently	therefore	though	thus

Time Connectives

before	afterwards
after	last
next	eventually
just then	firstly
shortly	secondly
	thirdly

Ancient Egyptian Mummification Process

1 The body was placed on a table to be washed.



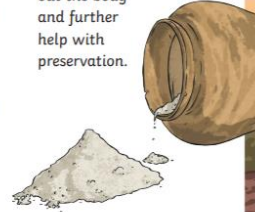
2 Organs were removed to help the preservation process. All organs were removed except for the heart. The brain was removed by sticking a pointed rod up the nasal cavity and pulling it out the same way.



3 The organs that the Egyptians thought were most important were saved in canopic jars. The jars often had sculptures of the ancient Egyptian gods on them. These organs included the stomach, liver, intestines, and lungs. The canopic jars were placed with the mummified body.



4 Next, sawdust was placed in the body cavity. The sawdust was followed by natron or salt that would dry out the body and further help with preservation.



5 Linen strips would then be wrapped around the body. Several layers of linen were used to completely cover the body. You see this depicted in images of mummies.



6 A shroud, or burial cloth, was placed over the linen-wrapped body.

7 Finally, the body was placed in a tomb called a sarcophagus and deemed ready for the afterlife.



? Did you know that ancient Egyptians even mummified some of their beloved pets?

? Did you know that it took over 70 days to complete the mummification process?