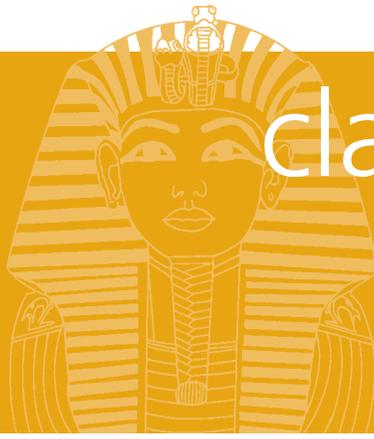




EMORY

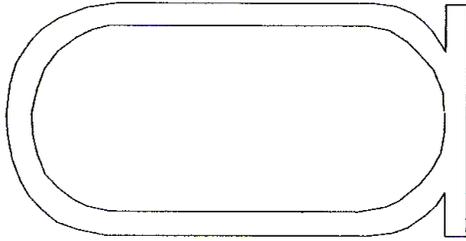
MICHAEL C.
CARLOS
MUSEUM

carlos.emory.edu



classroom TUTORIALS

The Many Names of King Tutankhamun



This symbol is a cartouche. The name “cartouche” was given to this ancient Egyptian symbol by Napoleon’s soldiers and servants because it is in a cartridge-like shape. The French word “cartouche” means cartridge. A cartouche is a stylized representation of a knotted rope identified with the concept of protection by the ancient Egyptians.

The ancient Egyptians believed that for one’s soul to live on in the afterlife, one’s name must be spoken by the living. Today, Tutankhamun may be the best known of any Egyptian pharaoh but his name was nearly lost forever. It was even left off of the lists of kings made by the ancient Egyptians to remember their own history! In fact, before the discovery of his tomb in 1922, Tutankhamun was almost completely forgotten.

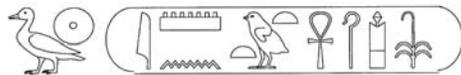
Ancient Egyptian kings did not have just one name. They could have as many as five different names and titles! As part of his excavation, Howard Carter found evidence of King Tutankhamun’s five royal names. Of these five names, two of them were enclosed by cartouches, the *throne name* and *birth name*, both of which are described below.

Son of Re Name (Birth Name)

Tutankhamun is the *son of Re* or birth name of the boy king, and the name by which we know him today. However, that was not the name he was given at birth. Most ancient Egyptian kings are given their *son of Re* name at birth, and called by that name until they take the throne. This was not the case with King Tutankhamun. He changed his birth name from Tutankhaten, which means “living image of the Aten” to Tutankhamun, “living image of Amun” for religious reasons. Tutankhamun grew up during the religious revolution started by Akhenaten, worshipping one god, the Aten. When he took the throne, the boy king reinstated the traditional religion of Egypt, most likely acting on the advice of his advisors Ay and Horemheb, and changed his name from Tutankhaten to Tutankhamun.

Praenomen (Throne Name)

A king’s throne name or *praenomen* is usually assigned at his coronation. In hieroglyphs, it is usually preceded by the title *nsw-bity*, which means “King of Upper and Lower Egypt.” The title is made up of the hieroglyphs *nsw* (sedge) plant and *bity* (the bee). The name itself, not including the *nsw-bity*, is enclosed by a cartouche.



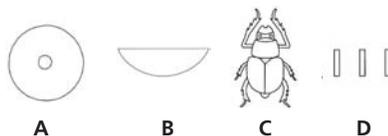
Tutankhamun’s *Son of Re* Birth Name



Tutankhamun’s *praenomen* or Throne Name



Even though we know King Tutankhamun by his *Son of Re* name, it was his throne name, Nebkheperure, that was incorporated in motifs on his jewelry. In ancient Egyptian, Nebkheperure means “Lord of the forms of Re.” When written in hieroglyphs, this name consisted of a sun disk (A), a basket (B), and a beetle (C) with three dashes underneath (D). King Tutankhamun’s throne name is enclosed in one of two cartouches on a golden fan in the exhibition. What name do you think appears in the other cartouche?





Tutankhamun's Horus Name

Horus Name

This title solidified the king as the earthly manifestation of the god Horus. It is easy to spot a Horus name. The sign for a falcon (wearing a crown) appears at the beginning of the name. King Tutankhamun's Horus Name means: "Strong bull, perfect of birth."



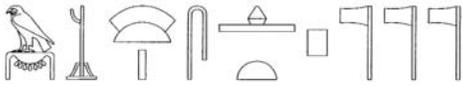
Tutankhamun's Nebty (Two Ladies) Name

Nebty (Two Ladies) Name

The *nebty* (two ladies) name associated the king with the goddesses of Upper and Lower Egypt, Nekhbet and Wadjet. These goddesses are represented as a snake and a vulture atop baskets (E). King Tutankhamun's *nebty* name means: "Whose beneficent laws pacify the two lands."



E



Tutankhamun's Horus of Gold Name

Horus of Gold Name

The meaning of this name is disputed, but it might be associated with the superiority of the king over his enemies. In representation, this name is a falcon that represents the god Horus placed over or beside the sign for gold (F). King Tutankhamun's Horus of Gold Name means: "He who wears the crowns, who satisfies the gods."



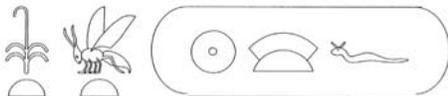
F

You will find some of the five names of the pharaohs on objects in the exhibition. Look for some of these names and test your newly acquired skill of deciphering hieroglyphs!

Can you find Sobekhotep's birth name on his statue in the exhibition?

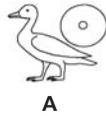


The throne name is also enclosed in a cartouche and is preceded by an image of the sedge plant and a bee. Can you find this epithet on King Khafre's statue?



HIEROGLYPH	SOUND	DESCRIPTION
	a/e	Egyptian vulture
	i/ee	reed leaf
	aa	forearm
	oo/w	quail chick
	b	leg and foot
	p	stool
	f	horned viper
	m	owl
	n	water
	r/l	open mouth
	h	fenced enclosure
	h	twisted rope
	kh	unknown
	h	cow's belly
	s	door bolt
	s	folded cloth
	sh	lake
	k	hillside
	k	basket
	g	pot stand
	t	bread loaf
	tch	hobble rope
	d	hand
	dj	cobra

Every *son of Re* name begins with an image of a duck and the sun (A), which is followed by the king's name.



Using the chart on the left as a reference, write your own birth (*son of Re*) name in hieroglyphs in the cartouche below.

