

# Importance of Boat Building and the Nile River

## In Ancient Egypt- Answer Key

1. **Answers will vary.** Example answer: The skiff was an early type of boat that allowed Egyptians to travel by water. The skiffs were small and could be used for fishing and allowed people to travel the Nile.
2. **Answers will vary.** Example answer: Two boat building innovations that helped Egyptians were sails and wood ships. Both allowed Egyptians to navigate the Nile and travel to the Mediterranean and Red seas. The sails allowed ships to use the winds in addition to manpower, while wood ships could carry more people and goods from place to place.
3. **Answers will vary.** Example answer: Because Ancient Civilizations depended on the water for travel for many different purposes, studying the kinds of ships and boats they used would tell someone about the cultural, military and economic life of that civilization. It would also provide clues to the history of boatbuilding for that group.
4. **Answers will vary.** Example answer: The Nile River was very important to Ancient Egyptian transportation and military. According to the text, they used the Nile as “an important source of transportation to facilitate trade.” The Egyptians also used their military ships to “communicate and pass messages,” as well as transporting troops and carrying supplies.
5. **Answers will vary.** Example answer: The Ancient Egyptian civilization could not have survived without boats because they needed them for transportation, trade, and defense. For example, they used boats to reach other places and exchange goods. Without boat building, the Egyptian civilization probably would not have lasted very long. The Nile River was their highway and they learned through building ships, how to make use of the river.