

# Ancient Egypt Canopic Jars

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Read the passage below and then fill in:

In ancient Egypt, during the mummification process, canopic jars were used to store the dead body's organs. This was to make sure that they had them for the afterlife. The heart was left inside the body as it was believed that it would need to be weighed in the afterlife. This would determine whether the person had lived a good life or not.

Before placing the organs inside the jars, they were dried in a salt called natron. This was done to preserve them.

The Egyptians believed that the parts of the body would be pieced back together in the afterlife, just like the god Osiris. He was then re-assembled by the goddess Isis before he became the god of the afterlife.

Canopic jars were four decorated clay pots, each with a different head of the sons of the god Horus on top. These gods were Hapi the baboon who protected the lungs, Qebehnsenuf the falcon who guarded the intestines, Duamatef the jackal who guarded the stomach and Imsety the human guarded the liver.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ jars were used to protect the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of the deceased.

These jars had the heads of the sons of \_\_\_\_\_, carved on to the lids.

To preserve the organs, \_\_\_\_\_, was used to dry them out before storing them in the jars.

It was thought that the \_\_\_\_\_, would be weighed in the \_\_\_\_\_, to see if the deceased had lived a good life or not.

Which organs did each god protect?

\_\_\_\_\_ protects the lungs.

\_\_\_\_\_ protects the liver.

\_\_\_\_\_ protects the intestines.

\_\_\_\_\_ protects the stomach.



# Ancient Egypt Canopic Jars Answers

1. Canopic jars were used to protect the **lungs, intestines, stomach** and **liver** of the deceased. These jars had the heads of the sons of **Horus** carved on to the lids. To preserve the organs, **natron** was used to dry them out before storing them in the jars. It was thought that the **heart** would be weighed in the **body** to see if the deceased had lived a good life or not.

Which organs did each god protect?

**Hapi** protects the lungs.

**Qebhsenuf** protects the intestines.

**Duamatef** protects the stomach.

**Imstey** protects the liver.