

RE-VIEW

Video: The Land of the Pharaohs

Setting
(historical fiction)

Ava is learning all about various aspects of setting before beginning to write her play. Kimberly showed her the Writer's Workshop website. It provides a variety of settings to help writers get started. Participants of the workshop post regularly. It's a great place to share ideas and collaborate with others. Ava decided to read *The Land of the Pharaohs* for ideas.

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read *The Land of the Pharaohs*. Create your own *Think Aloud*.

Then compare your thinking with **Kimberly's Think Aloud**.



Before You Read:

Think about what you may already know about Egypt. Think about what you've learned about setting. Remember that authors include details about weather, geography, everyday life, social conditions, and establish mood as they describe the time and place the story occurs.

While You Read:

Notice words that can help you determine the time and place of the setting and what it is like. You may want to highlight these words in orange. (You may use any color available to you!)

After You Read:

- Think about how you would describe the setting in this piece of historical fiction.
- Think about the video you just watched. Kimberly shared how understanding the setting helped her make sense of the passage *The Land of the Pharaohs*.
- Create your own *Think Aloud*. Share how you made sense of this passage, too.

The Land of the Pharaohs

Scorching winds blew across the desert land. It was Egypt's Old Kingdom era, 2400 B.C. The Nile River spilled out of its banks. The flooding left behind dark, rich soil for farmers planting their crops.

But the crops weren't all that was growing. The mighty pyramids were under construction. Cities in the pyramids' shadows sprung up. Egyptian pyramid workers lived in homes provided by the pharaoh. Others worked as merchants, craftspeople, and bakers.

The cities hummed with activity. Inside the finished pyramids, however, there was silence and secrets. The pyramids held royal tombs. There were also storage rooms, courtyards, and secret passageways. Traps waited for robbers planning to steal the treasures locked inside.

