Osiris – the King Who Had to Die Twice

Subjects: English · History · Religious Studies | recommended from age 12 (B1) | Video: 9:11 min



Watch the video
youtu.be/-j8d5C8eaJw

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

A · Before watching

1. What do you already know about mummies and ancient Egypt? Write down two things.

B · While watching

1. How were Osiris and his siblings born despite Ra's curse?

2. What did Osiris bring to the people as king?

3. What trick did Set use to kill his brother?

4. Where did Isis find the chest – and what was it hidden in?

5. What did Set do when he found the body a second time?

Useful words

coffin / chest	Sarg / Truhe	embalming	Einbalsamierung
to drown	ertrinken	underworld	Unterwelt
jealousy	Neid	flood	Überschwemmung
to scatter	verstreuen	judge	Richter

C · Put the story in order

Number the events from 1 to 8 in the order they happen in the video.

	The chest is sealed with lead and thrown into the Nile.
	Isis, Nephthys and Anubis put the body back together.
	Thoth wins five extra days, and Osiris and his siblings are born.
	Set cuts the body into fourteen pieces.
	Osiris teaches people farming, wine-making and laws.
	Osiris becomes ruler and judge of the underworld.
	Set secretly has a chest made to fit Osiris exactly.
	In Byblos a tree grows around the coffin.

D · Think and discuss

1. Osiris stood for fertile land and order, Set for desert and chaos. Why might a culture on the Nile need this contrast?

2. Isis searches for Osiris twice and never gives up. What does that tell us about her – and why was she so widely worshipped later?

E · Myth and real life

The end of the video explains how the myth shaped real life in ancient Egypt. Match them up.

	In the myth	In real ancient Egypt
Osiris dies and lives on in the underworld		
Isis puts the body back together		
Osiris becomes judge of the dead		
Horus wins back the throne		

F · Get creative

1. In your exercise book, write as Isis telling a friend about her search for Osiris (8–10 sentences). What happened, and what kept her going?