Egypt: The New Kingdom
Vocabulary:

- **New Kingdom** – the time period in Ancient Egypt when the empire was expanded out of the Nile River Valley.

- **Ebony** – a tree that produces black lumber.

- **Incense** – materials that when they are burned they give off scented smoke.
Vocabulary (continued):

• Amon – God of Thebes

• Treasury – the place where a group keeps their money or valuables

• Scribes – people who kept and copied written records

• Hieroglyphics – Egyptian writing
I. Introduction to the New Kingdom

• Hatshepsut, pushed trade outside of the Nile River Valley
  – Trade and Religions were her main concerns
  – She established Punt as a major trading post for Egyptian trade with other East African Nation
  – Traded beads and metal tools for exotic items such as leopard skins, ebony, hunting dogs, and incense
Thutmose III, the stepson of Hatshepsut, took over after her death.

- He pushed the Egyptian Army into Syria and Palestine, expanding the Egyptian Empire.

I. Introduction to the New Kingdom (continued)
II. Religion

• During the New Kingdom the capital of Egypt was moved to, Thebes

• Egyptians began to worship a combination of the God of Thebes and the Sun God, Amon-Re

• Temples were built in his honor
II. Religion (Continued)

• During the New Kingdom the temples became a center for industry
  – Sculptors and Artisans worked in the temples to provide for the priests
  – The temples served as treasuries
  – Schools for young boys to learn how to be scribes were located in the temples
II. Religion (Continued)

• Scribes worked out of temples copying religious works, government records, and medical prescriptions

• The only way a boy could become a scribe was to have a father who was a scribe
III. Decline

• Pharaohs lost power to the priests of Amon-Re

• When Amenhotep IV took over he closed the temples and created a new religion

• The new religion was:
  – Monotheistic with Aton being the only god
  – He changed his name to Akhenaton “Spirit of Aton”
  – Only his close advisors and family actually accepted the new religion
Amenhotep IV
III. Decline (continued)

- At 9 years old Amenhotep IV’s Son-in-Law, Tutankhamen took over

- Tutankhamen (King Tut) restored the old religion to Egypt

- He died 9 years later
III. Decline (continued)

• Egypt looses its power for a couple of reasons:
  – There was a struggle between priests and Pharaohs
  – Egypt was spending too much money trying to keep its empire, because of all of the military action that was needed
  – Egypt was low on iron and they needed iron to keep up with the surrounding armies
III. Decline (continued)

- The Egyptian Empire fell when the Assyrians took over in 671 B.C.