



TALES OF ANCIENT EGYPT NARRATIVE

Learning Objective:
**To identify similarities and differences
between well-known stories.**



**Do you know the
traditional story of
'Cinderella'?**



Can you retell it?
Who are the main characters?
What are the key events?

**B
A
C
K**

**N
E
X
T**



Use the story
map you have
just made to retell
the story of 'The
Egyptian
Cinderella'
alongside.

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Both of these stories follow a very similar storyline. They share some key events and characters, although they might be a little different in each story.



Who are the characters in each story?
Is there an equivalent character in the other story?

**B
A
C
K**

**N
E
X
T**

Characters

Traditional


- Cinderella
- Stepmother
- Stepsisters
- Animal friends
- Fairy Godmother
- Prince

Egyptian


- Rhodopis
- Servant girls
- Animal friends
- Rhodopis's master
- Pharaoh Amasis

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How are the
characters in the
Egyptian version
similar to the
traditional version?



How are the
characters in the
Egyptian version
different from the
traditional version?

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Egyptian Cinderella characters

**Similar to the traditional
fairy tale**

**Different from the
traditional fairy tale**

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Egyptian Cinderella characters

Similar to the traditional fairy tale

- The main character is a slave.
- The main character is treated badly by someone she works/lives with.
- There is a royal character.



Did you think
of any of
these ideas?

Different from the traditional fairy tale

- The main character is called Rhodopis, not Cinderella
- The traditional stepsisters are household servants instead.
- The royal character is a Pharaoh not a prince.
- Traditionally a fairy godmother gives the main character her special shoes. In the Egyptian story it is her master.

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Think about this statement which is trying to describe the stories:

A poor girl marries royalty after she is the only one whose foot fits into a special shoe.



Does this statement fit both stories? Why/why not?

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What else is similar
between these two
versions of the story?

Similar to the traditional fairy
tale



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What else is similar between these two versions of the story?

Did you think of any of these ideas?



Similar to the traditional fairy tale

- The main character is given special shoes
- The main character loses one of the special shoes
- The stepsisters/servants go to visit the royal character without the main character
- The royal character finds the lost shoe and declares he will marry the person it fits
- Many women try to fit into the shoe but fail, including the stepsisters/servants
- The main character tries on the shoe successfully and the royal character asks her to marry him

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What are the main differences between these two versions of the story?

Different from the traditional fairy tale



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What are the main differences between these two versions of the story?

Did you think of any of these ideas?



Different from the traditional fairy tale

- The story is set in Ancient Egypt
- Rhodopis is given the shoe because of her dancing
- A falcon steals the shoe from Rhodopis, rather than accidentally leaving it behind
- Rhodopis doesn't go to visit the Pharaoh for a royal ball
- The falcon gives the shoe to the Pharaoh, he doesn't find it

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Which parts of the story do you think were important to keep so that it is still a 'Cinderella' story?

How do you know that the Egyptian version of the story was still a 'Cinderella' story?



**B
A
C
K**

**N
E
X
T**



Do you agree with these ideas?

A 'Cinderella' story needs...

- A poor main character who is given special shoes/item
- Some horrible characters who bully the main character
- A royal character who will find the main character
- An event where the main character loses one of their shoes/item
- The royal characters finding the main character using the special shoes/item