**Ode to the Nile Poem**

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| Hail to thee, O Nile! Who manifests thyself over this land, and comes to give life to Egypt! Mysterious is thy issuing forth from the darkness, on this day whereon it is celebrated! Watering the orchards created by Re, to cause all the cattle to live, you give the earth to drink, inexhaustible one! Path that descends from the sky, loving the bread of Seb and the first-fruits of Nepera, You cause the workshops of Ptah to prosper! |
| Questions   |  | | --- | | 1. Who or what gives life to Egypt? | | 1. What are the accomplishments of this life giver? | | 1. Using the context clues who is Re? | |  |   Lord of the fish, during the inundation, no bird alights on the crops. You create the grain, you bring forth the barley, assuring perpetuity to the temples. If you cease your toil and your work, then all that exists is in anguish. If the gods suffer in heaven, then the faces of men waste away.  Questions   1. How does the Nile create the grain and bring forth the barley? 2. What does the statement mean “if you cease your toil and your work then all that exists is in anguish”? 3. What does perpetuity mean and why would the temples lose it if there was no grain and barley? |
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| O inundation of the Nile, offerings are made unto you, men are immolated to you, great festivals are instituted for you. Birds are sacrificed to you, gazelles are taken for you in the mountain, pure flames are prepared for you. Sacrifice is mettle to every god as it is made to the Nile. The Nile has made its retreats in Southern Egypt, its name is not known beyond the Tuau. The god manifests not his forms, He baffles all conception. |
| through his orchards! Come (and) prosper, come, O Nile, come (and) prosper!  Questions   1. What types of activities did the ancient Egyptians engage in in order to appease the Nile? 2. Why was it important for them to engage in these activities? 3. What does it mean “inundation of the Nile”? Also what is the relationship between the rituals described and the inundation of the Nile? |