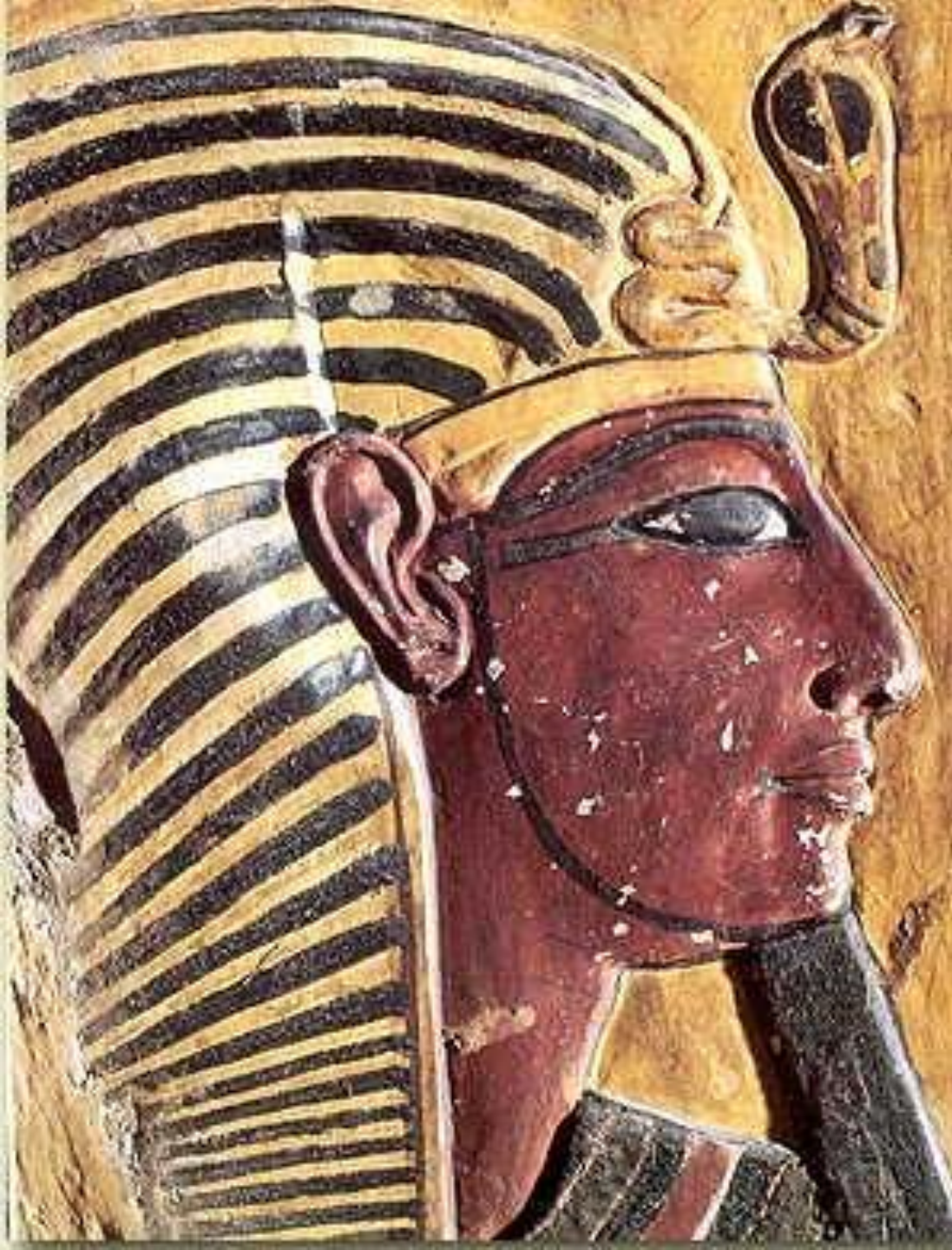


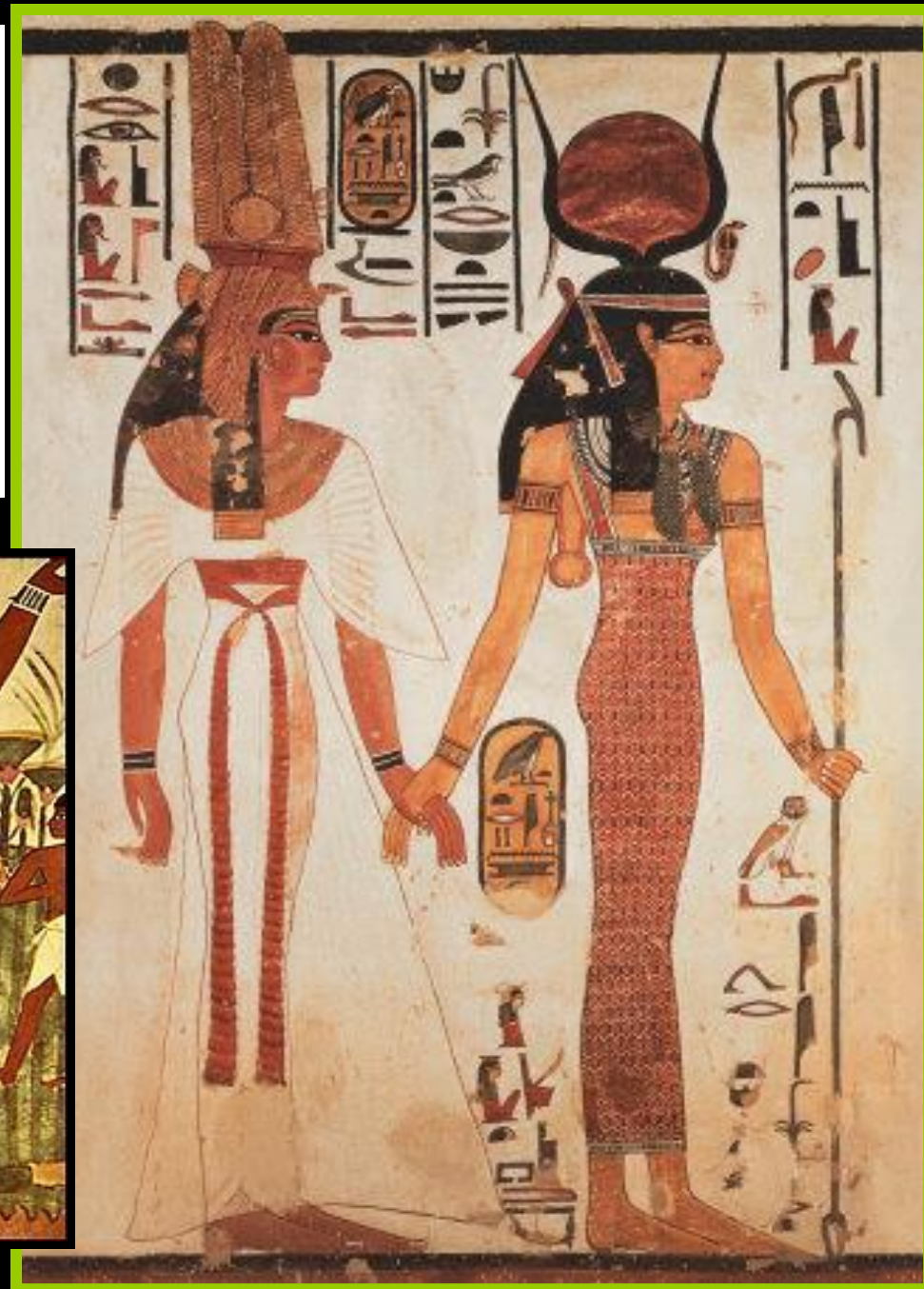
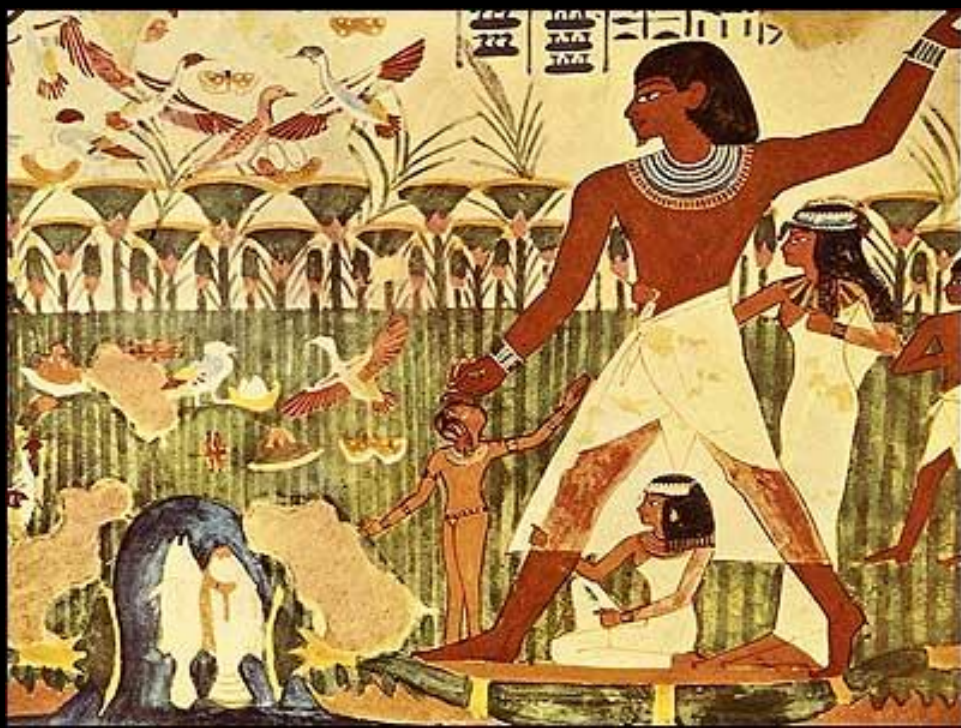


Egyptian Art



Most of what we know about Egyptian art comes from the paintings the Egyptians created in the tombs of rich people when they died.

The pictures of people were very different to how we draw people today. The upper part of the body was drawn facing front on but the arms, legs and faces were drawn facing the side. One single eye dominated the face. This style made the figures look very flat.



Look carefully at the torsos (upper bodies), arms, legs and heads of the figures in this picture and study which way they are facing. Try to get your own body into the same position. It is hard to do!



The pictures on the walls of the tombs were supposed to help the dead person out when he or she reached the next world, where the Egyptians thought you lived after you died in this world. So the paintings showed all sorts of things that people did in their everyday lives. This is how we know so much about how they lived.



Egyptian artists drew from memory, according to strict rules which didn't change for thousands of years... They didn't draw realistically.

The natural flora and fauna surrounding the Nile river was also a theme of Egyptian art.



Ancient Egyptian art is characterised by the idea of order. Clear and simple lines combined with simple shapes and flat areas of colour helped to create a sense of order and balance in the art of ancient Egypt. Ancient Egyptian artists used vertical and horizontal reference lines in order to maintain the correct proportions in their work.

