

Building the pyramids

Discuss how you think these activities were carried out. Put them in order. You could illustrate them too.

<p>Aligning the pyramids</p> <p>The pyramids are very carefully aligned North-South. Maybe you could use the North Star to find North.</p>	<p>Shaping blocks of stone</p> <p>Use a drill or saw. These would wear out rapidly because the metal would be softer than the stone. Maybe pouring desert sand between the drill or saw and the stone would help.</p> <p><i>(Don't try any of this yourself!)</i></p>
<p>Raising the blocks of stone</p> <p>Use ramps. How would you design ramps?</p>	<p>People</p> <p>Thousands of workers are needed. When will you get them? Where from - who are they?</p>
<p>Levelling the site</p> <p>Cut shallow trenches in the ground. Flood them with water. Cut off anything sticking up higher than the rest.</p>	<p>Quarrying</p> <p>Dig large boulders out of the sand. Use mallet and chisel to cut softer rock.</p> <p><i>(Don't try this yourself!)</i></p>
<p>Getting the lines and angles right</p> <p>Make sure the sides are straight, with a right-angle at each corner.</p>	<p>Moving the stones</p> <p>Just slide stones along the ground? very hard work! <i>or:</i> Put two long poles side by side on the ground, like a railway. Slide the blocks of stone along these. <i>or:</i> Use rollers?</p>