

Creating Glyphs

An activity of "Google Translate adds 10 more African languages"

Read "Google Translate adds 10 more African languages" (page 7, *What's Up* July 2022). There are many languages in other parts of the world. Many use letters to spell words while others use symbols or glyphs (hieroglyphic characters). Some glyphs represent syllables, and some stand for whole words.

PART 1

1. Ancient Mayan writing consisted of glyphs. Let's take a quick look at the history behind these symbols as you watch the following video:

Deciphering the Maya Code ➤ <https://youtu.be/xIWxJc-4Hqs>
(Canadian Museum of History, 28 April 2012)

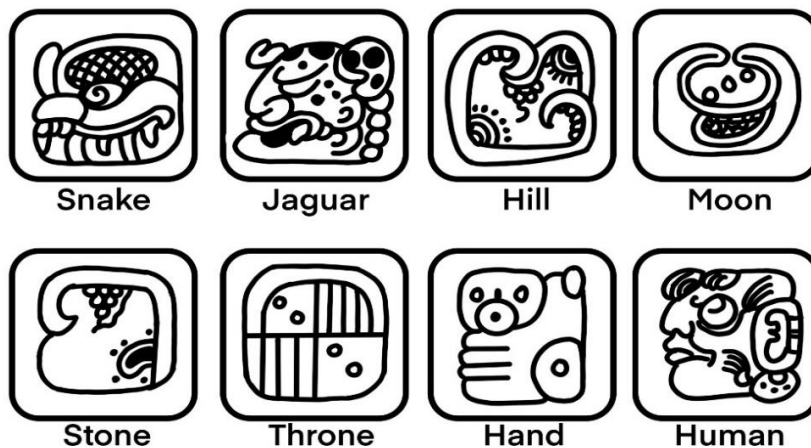
What were two interesting facts you learned about Maya glyphs?

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2. Just for fun! (Optional) Watch the following video to learn how to write your name in Maya glyphs.

Write your name in Maya glyphs! ➤ <https://youtu.be/BT0g3 Pinus>
(Marrok the Wolf, 28 Feb 2021)

3. Look at these Maya glyphs, with their respective meanings.



PART 2

4. With a partner, create your own glyphs in the given grid.

5. Write a sentence with your created glyphs to communicate an idea to each other!

6. Discuss: Were you able to communicate using glyphs? What were the challenges of creating a writing system? What was easy for you?