**Egypt Notes**

**Chapter 4 – Section #2**

* **Work and Family Life:**
* As society became more complex, people developed specialized skills. Some became artisans and others became scribes.
* Made up of a variety of social classes:
	+ Pharaoh-ruler
	+ Priest – cared for the temple and performed rituals
	+ Scribes and government officials
	+ Craftspeople and merchants
	+ Farmers
	+ Laborers and slaves
* **Expanding knowledge:**
* Developed writing system using hieroglyphs
* Developed paper-like material from papyrus reed.
* Egyptian priests studied the sky and became astronomers. Astronomy helped them develop the first calendar.
* Performed the first surgeries.
* **Beliefs and Religion:**
* Believed that one’s prosperity could continue into a happy afterlife, whereas the Sumerians thought it would be miserable.
* Polytheistic, believed in many gods
* Dead bodies were embalmed to preserve the body for the afterlife.
* Everyday objects that might be wanted or needed were also placed in the tomb.
* According to the Book of the Dead, the god, Anubis, weighed the dead person’s heart on a scale against the feather. They thought that bad deeds would make the heart heavier.