Herodotus: “Egypt is a gift from the Nile”

We are going to clarify the meaning of the phrase through the following steps:

**FIRST STEP**

**¿Who is Herodotus?**

He is a Greek historian. He lived between 484 and 420 b.c. He travelled around Egypt, the Middle East, and Northern Africa. His most well-known work is entitled “The Nine History Books”.

* Historian: someone who researches and interprets the past.

Pay attention to the year Herodotus was born (484) and when he died (420). The numbers are inverted. This is because we count towards the Year Zero of our era, which starts approximately with the birth of Christ.

When Herodotus was born, there were 484 years remaining until the birth of Christ and when Herodotus dies there were 420 remaining. That means that Herodotus lived to the age of 64.

* The dates are accompanied by the acronym b.C. (before Christ).
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Look at the dates of birth and death of the following people:

- Cleopatra: Last Queen of Egypt, 69-30
- Hypatia: Philosopher, mathematician and astronomer, 375-415
- Eratóstenes: Greek Mathematician and Geographer, 276-194
- Picasso: Painter, sculptor, engraver, 1881-1973

Which of them lived before Christ?

SECOND STEP Think about Herodotus’ phrase again and work on the map

- Mark the Nile River in blue
Herodotus: “Egypt is a gift from the Nile”

- Color the desert zone in orange
- Mark the Nile delta
- Indicate where the Mediterranean Sea is
- Mark the Red Sea
- Trace a line dividing the Upper Egypt from Lower Egypt

If the Nile didn't cross this Northwestern region of Africa, what would happen?

*Put an “x” by the correct answers*

- Food Production would be small
- Agriculture would develop easily
- The population would grow
- The population would be scarce and scattered
- Water would be scarce

Number the following sentences in logical order, 1 to 3:

1. Food Production would be small
2. Water would be scarce
3. Food production would be small

*Click to see the correct answers*

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