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built during a time when egypt was one of the richest and most powerful civilizations in the world the pyramids especially the great pyramids of giza are some of the most magnificent man made the egyptian pyramids are ancient masonry structures located in egypt sources cite at least 118 identified egyptian pyramids 1 2 approximately 80 pyramids were built within the kingdom of kush now located in the modern country of sudan the pyramids of giza were royal tombs built for three different pharaohs the northernmost and oldest pyramid of the group was built for khufu greek cheops the second king of the 4th dynasty called the great pyramid it is the largest of the three the great pyramid of giza is the largest egyptian pyramid it served as the tomb of pharaoh khufu who ruled during the fourth dynasty of the old kingdom built c 2600 bc 3 over a period of about 27 years 4 the pyramid is the oldest of the seven wonders of the ancient world and the only wonder that has remained largely intact all three of giza s famed pyramids and their elaborate burial complexes were built during a frenetic period of construction from roughly 2550 to 2490 b c the great pyramid of giza is a defining symbol of egypt and the last of the ancient seven wonders of the world it is located on the giza plateau near the modern city of cairo and was built over a twenty year period during the reign of the king khufu 2589 2566 bce also known as cheops of the 4th dynasty great pyramid of giza ancient egyptian pyramid that is the largest of those at giza it was built for the khufu cheops the second king of egypt s 4th dynasty the pyramids of egypt fascinated travellers and conquerors in ancient times and continue to inspire wonder in the tourists mathematicians and archeologists who visit explore measure and describe them tombs of early egyptian kings were bench shaped mounds called mastabas pyramids ancient egyptians during the third and fourth dynasties perfected the construction of pyramids as burial chambers for their kings grades 5 8 subjects anthropology archaeology geography human geography social studies ancient civilizations image egyptian pyramids in sunset the last remaining of the seven wonders of the ancient world the great pyramids of giza are perhaps the most famous and discussed structures in history the last remaining of the seven wonders of the ancient world the great pyramids of giza are perhaps the most famous and discussed structures in history these massive monuments were unsurpassed in height for thousands of years after their construction and continue to amaze and enthrall us with their overwhelming mass and seemingly impossible along with the enigmatic sphinx and other smaller tombs and monuments giza has three principal pyramids khufu originally 481 feet high and sometimes called cheops or the great pyramid in the popular imagination pyramids are the three lonely structures on the giza plateau at the edge of the sahara desert but there are over seventy pyramids in egypt stretching down the Nile river valley and in their time they were the centers of great temple complexes scientists believe they may have solved the mystery of how 31 pyramids including the world famous giza complex were built in egypt more than 4 000 years ago who were the people who built khufu s pyramid and the pyramids of egypt s other pharaohs and why did they devote their lives to the task the great pyramid or the pyramid of khufu is the oldest and the tallest of the three pyramids towering over giza constructed c 2551 2528 bce it originally stood at 481 4 feet 147 meters or about 45 stories a pyramid from ancient greek πυραμῖς pyramis pyramid is a structure whose visible surfaces are triangular and converge to a point at the top making the shape roughly a pyramid in the geometric sense the base of a pyramid can be of any polygon shape such as trilateral or quadrilateral the pyramids of egypt are among the most recognizable and enduring monuments of the ancient world long after they were built other ancient peoples such as the greeks and romans wrote about them with as much awe as people do today the ancient egyptian pyramids have stood for thousands of years and are among the world s most enduring monuments but what did the pyramids look like when they were first built pyramids are iconic symbols of the ancient pharaohs power and technological prowess that still dominate the egyptian skyline but when were pyramids first built and why were they

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