

1. IDENTIFICATION: (Artist, title, date, size, country of origin, period/style)

015. Seated Scribe

Saqqara, Egypt

Old Kingdom, Fourth Dynasty, ca. 2620-2500 BCE

2. FORM: (use of design elements/ principles: color, shape, value, texture, line, space; balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, etc.)

Symmetry/balance, unideal features, looking upward and dutifully, rounded and smooth

3. MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUE: (art making processes)

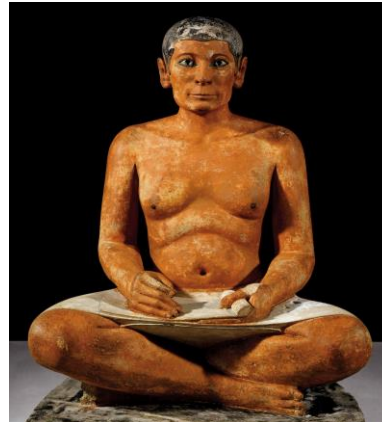
Painted Limestone

4. CONTENT: (subject & genre: iconography, symbolism, the story)

A scribe is realistically depicted

His expression is intelligent & alert

Round belly shows comfort, but also that he is mortal



5. ORIGINAL CONTEXT/ SITE/ INTENDED FUNCTION OF THE WORK: (Overlap to #6)

Found buried, statues in Egypt were made for when the original body decomposed, so the ka had a place to go afterwards

6. INTENDED PURPOSE & MOTIVATION (why was it made?); **PATRON/AUDIENCE** (who was it made for?); **ARTIST'S DECISION MAKING:**

The artist depicted the scribe realistically as he was not seen as a divine entity, and made after (or in preparation of) his death so it could be buried with him

7. INNOVATION/ CHANGE(S):

Realism

CONVENTION/ TRADITION(S):

**Like all Egyptian art: rigid & balanced
Dedicated for burial/after-life**

8. THEME(S):

Human figure, afterlife/funerary

COMPARE TO ANOTHER WORK:

Like King Menkaura and Queen, both of these Egyptian sculptures represent a real life person. This one was done with more natural features, as scribes held relatively low status in comparison to the godlike kings.