

Discovering Tut - A R Williams

Term	Explanation
heir	A person entitled to succeed to a position or inherit property. Here it identifies Tut as the last successor of a powerful royal family. Example: The last heir of a powerful family that had ruled Egypt and its empire for centuries, he was laid to rest laden with gold and eventually forgotten.
laid to rest	Buried after death. The expression gives a solemn, respectful tone to the account of Tut's burial. Example: The last heir of a powerful family that had ruled Egypt and its empire for centuries, he was laid to rest laden with gold and eventually forgotten.
laden with gold	Loaded or richly supplied with gold. It emphasises the abundance of precious objects buried with the young king. Example: The last heir of a powerful family that had ruled Egypt and its empire for centuries, he was laid to rest laden with gold and eventually forgotten.
laden	Heavily loaded with something. Here it describes the wealth placed with Tut at his burial. Example: The last heir of a powerful family that had ruled Egypt and its empire for centuries, he was laid to rest laden with gold and eventually forgotten.
speculated	Formed possible explanations without enough evidence to be certain. People had proposed different theories about Tut's death. Example: Since the discovery of his tomb in 1922, the modern world has speculated about what happened to him, with murder being the most extreme possibility.
CT scan	An examination that uses X-rays and computer processing to produce detailed images of the inside of a body. Here it allows researchers to examine the mummy without taking it apart. Example: Now, leaving his tomb for the first time in almost 80 years, Tut has undergone a CT scan that offers new clues about his life and death — and provides precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of the boyish pharaoh.
precise	Exact and carefully detailed. The scan supplies measurements that can support a more accurate reconstruction of Tut. Example: Now, leaving his tomb for the first time in almost 80 years, Tut has undergone a CT scan that offers new clues about his life and death — and provides precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of the boyish pharaoh.
forensic reconstruction	The scientific recreation of a person's appearance or physical features from evidence such as bones and scans. Here it concerns reconstructing the young pharaoh from his remains. Example: Now, leaving his tomb for the first time in almost 80 years, Tut has undergone a CT scan that offers new clues about his life and death — and provides precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of the boyish pharaoh.
pharaoh	A ruler of ancient Egypt. The word refers to Tut and the other Egyptian kings discussed in the chapter. Example: Now, leaving his tomb for the first time in almost 80 years, Tut has undergone a CT scan that offers new clues about his life and death — and provides precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of the boyish pharaoh.
ghostly dust devils	Small whirling columns of dust that appear eerie or ghostlike. The expression creates an unsettling atmosphere as Tut is taken from his tomb. Example: An angry wind stirred up ghostly dust devils as King Tut was taken from his resting place in the ancient Egyptian cemetery known as the Valley of the Kings.
dust devils	Whirling columns of air that lift dust from the ground. Here they give the desert scene a restless, mysterious quality. Example: An angry wind stirred up ghostly dust devils as King Tut was taken from his resting place in the ancient Egyptian cemetery known as the Valley of the Kings.
cemetery	A place where dead people are buried. The Valley of the Kings is

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|                             | presented as an ancient royal burial ground. <b>Example:</b> An angry wind stirred up ghostly dust devils as King Tut was taken from his resting place in the ancient Egyptian cemetery known as the Valley of the Kings.                                                                                                                                             |
| dark-bellied clouds         | Clouds with dark undersides. The image gives the sky a heavy, threatening appearance. <b>Example:</b> Dark-bellied clouds had scudded across the desert sky all day and now were veiling the stars in casket grey.                                                                                                                                                    |
| scudded across              | Moved swiftly across a space, usually driven by wind. Here the clouds travelled rapidly across the desert sky. <b>Example:</b> Dark-bellied clouds had scudded across the desert sky all day and now were veiling the stars in casket grey.                                                                                                                           |
| veiling the stars           | Covering or concealing the stars as if with a veil. The clouds hide their light and deepen the gloomy atmosphere. <b>Example:</b> Dark-bellied clouds had scudded across the desert sky all day and now were veiling the stars in casket grey.                                                                                                                        |
| casket grey                 | A grey colour associated with a coffin. The unusual combination connects the darkened sky with death and burial. <b>Example:</b> Dark-bellied clouds had scudded across the desert sky all day and now were veiling the stars in casket grey.                                                                                                                         |
| casket                      | A coffin or a box for holding something precious. In this expression, the association with a coffin strengthens the funeral imagery. <b>Example:</b> Dark-bellied clouds had scudded across the desert sky all day and now were veiling the stars in casket grey.                                                                                                     |
| mummy                       | A dead body preserved against decay, especially through ancient Egyptian burial practices. Here it is the preserved body of King Tut. <b>Example:</b> The world's most famous mummy glided head first into a CT scanner brought here to probe the lingering medical mysteries of this little understood young ruler who died more than 3,300 years ago.               |
| glided                      | Moved smoothly and quietly. It describes the careful movement of Tut's body into the scanner. <b>Example:</b> The world's most famous mummy glided head first into a CT scanner brought here to probe the lingering medical mysteries of this little understood young ruler who died more than 3,300 years ago.                                                       |
| probe                       | Investigate closely in order to discover hidden information. The scanner was brought to examine unanswered questions about Tut's body and death. <b>Example:</b> The world's most famous mummy glided head first into a CT scanner brought here to probe the lingering medical mysteries of this little understood young ruler who died more than 3,300 years ago.    |
| lingering medical mysteries | Questions about the body, health or death that remain unresolved over time. The phrase stresses that Tut's death continued to puzzle investigators. <b>Example:</b> The world's most famous mummy glided head first into a CT scanner brought here to probe the lingering medical mysteries of this little understood young ruler who died more than 3,300 years ago. |
| lingering                   | Continuing to exist for a long time. Here it refers to questions that earlier investigations had not answered. <b>Example:</b> The world's most famous mummy glided head first into a CT scanner brought here to probe the lingering medical mysteries of this little understood young ruler who died more than 3,300 years ago.                                      |
| cramped                     | Uncomfortably small or lacking space. It describes the confined interior of the underground tomb. <b>Example:</b> All afternoon the usual line of tourists from around the world had descended into the cramped, rock-cut tomb some 26 feet underground to pay their respects.                                                                                        |
| pay their respects          | Show honour or regard, especially towards someone who has died. The visitors entered the tomb to acknowledge the ancient king. <b>Example:</b> All afternoon the usual line of tourists from around the world had descended into the cramped, rock-cut tomb some 26 feet underground to pay their respects.                                                           |
| murals                      | Pictures painted directly on walls. They decorated the walls of Tut's burial chamber. <b>Example:</b> They gazed at the murals on the walls of the burial chamber and peered at Tut's gilded face, the most striking                                                                                                                                                  |

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|                     | feature of his mummy-shaped outer coffin lid.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| burial chamber      | A room within a tomb where a dead body is placed. Here its walls contain paintings viewed by tourists. <b>Example:</b> They gazed at the murals on the walls of the burial chamber and peered at Tut's gilded face, the most striking feature of his mummy-shaped outer coffin lid.                                                                                                 |
| peered              | Looked closely or with effort. The visitors tried to examine the details of the king's face on the coffin lid. <b>Example:</b> They gazed at the murals on the walls of the burial chamber and peered at Tut's gilded face, the most striking feature of his mummy-shaped outer coffin lid.                                                                                         |
| gilded              | Covered with a thin layer of gold. It describes the golden surface of the face represented on the coffin lid. <b>Example:</b> They gazed at the murals on the walls of the burial chamber and peered at Tut's gilded face, the most striking feature of his mummy-shaped outer coffin lid.                                                                                          |
| pondering           | Thinking deeply or carefully about something. The visitors reflected on the mystery of the young king's death. <b>Example:</b> Others stood silently, perhaps pondering Tut's untimely death in his late teens, or wondering with a shiver if the pharaoh's curse — death or misfortune falling upon those who disturbed him — was really true.                                     |
| untimely death      | Death that occurs earlier than expected or seems premature. Tut's death in his late teens makes his story especially poignant. <b>Example:</b> Others stood silently, perhaps pondering Tut's untimely death in his late teens, or wondering with a shiver if the pharaoh's curse — death or misfortune falling upon those who disturbed him — was really true.                     |
| the pharaoh's curse | The supposed punishment awaiting anyone who disturbs the king's resting place. The chapter presents it as a belief that made some visitors uneasy. <b>Example:</b> Others stood silently, perhaps pondering Tut's untimely death in his late teens, or wondering with a shiver if the pharaoh's curse — death or misfortune falling upon those who disturbed him — was really true. |
| archaeologist       | A specialist who studies the human past through material remains, including buildings, objects and burial sites. Howard Carter discovered and investigated Tut's tomb. <b>Example:</b> Carter—Howard Carter, that is — was the British archaeologist who in 1922 discovered Tut's tomb after years of futile searching.                                                             |
| futile searching    | Searching that fails to produce the desired result. The phrase describes Carter's long efforts before finding the tomb. <b>Example:</b> Carter—Howard Carter, that is — was the British archaeologist who in 1922 discovered Tut's tomb after years of futile searching.                                                                                                            |
| futile              | Unsuccessful or unable to achieve a useful result. Here it describes the earlier years of searching. <b>Example:</b> Carter—Howard Carter, that is — was the British archaeologist who in 1922 discovered Tut's tomb after years of futile searching.                                                                                                                               |
| hastily ransacked   | Searched and plundered hurriedly, leaving things disturbed. The tomb had been robbed in ancient times, although much of its contents survived. <b>Example:</b> Its contents, though hastily ransacked in antiquity, were surprisingly complete.                                                                                                                                     |
| ransacked           | Searched thoroughly and roughly, usually to steal valuables. Here it describes the earlier plundering of Tut's tomb. <b>Example:</b> Its contents, though hastily ransacked in antiquity, were surprisingly complete.                                                                                                                                                               |
| antiquity           | The distant past, especially the period of ancient civilisations. It places the earlier robbery of the tomb in ancient times. <b>Example:</b> Its contents, though hastily ransacked in antiquity, were surprisingly complete.                                                                                                                                                      |
| stunning artefacts  | Human-made objects that are exceptionally impressive or beautiful. Here they are the remarkable gold objects found in the tomb. <b>Example:</b> Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation at the time of the discovery — and still get the most attention.                                                           |
| artefacts           | Objects made or used by people, particularly those of historical interest. These finds provide evidence of ancient Egyptian craftsmanship and beliefs. <b>Example:</b> Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation                                                                                                     |

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|                       | at the time of the discovery — and still get the most attention.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| eternal brilliance    | Brightness or splendour imagined as lasting forever. The phrase links the enduring shine of gold with the Egyptian hope of life after death. <b>Example:</b> Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation at the time of the discovery — and still get the most attention.        |
| resurrection          | A return to life after death. Here it refers to the religious hope associated with the objects placed in Tut's tomb. <b>Example:</b> Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation at the time of the discovery — and still get the most attention.                                |
| caused a sensation    | Created great public excitement and interest. The discovery of the golden objects attracted extraordinary attention. <b>Example:</b> Stunning artefacts in gold, their eternal brilliance meant to guarantee resurrection, caused a sensation at the time of the discovery — and still get the most attention.                                |
| afterlife             | An existence believed to follow death. The everyday objects in Tut's tomb reflect the belief that he would need them beyond this life. <b>Example:</b> But Tut was also buried with everyday things he'd want in the afterlife: board games, a bronze razor, linen undergarments, cases of food and wine.                                     |
| funerary treasures    | Valuable objects associated with burial and funeral practices. They were placed with Tut for religious, ceremonial and practical purposes. <b>Example:</b> After months of carefully recording the pharaoh's funerary treasures, Carter began investigating his three nested coffins.                                                         |
| funerary              | Connected with funerals or burial rites. Here it describes the purpose of the treasures in the tomb. <b>Example:</b> After months of carefully recording the pharaoh's funerary treasures, Carter began investigating his three nested coffins.                                                                                               |
| nested coffins        | Coffins placed one inside another. The arrangement required Carter to open successive layers before reaching the mummy. <b>Example:</b> After months of carefully recording the pharaoh's funerary treasures, Carter began investigating his three nested coffins.                                                                            |
| shroud                | A cloth used to wrap or cover a dead body. Here it was decorated with leaves and flowers. <b>Example:</b> Opening the first, he found a shroud adorned with garlands of willow and olive leaves, wild celery, lotus petals, and cornflowers, the faded evidence of a burial in March or April.                                                |
| adorned with garlands | Decorated with arranged strings or wreaths of flowers and leaves. These decorations helped indicate the season of Tut's burial. <b>Example:</b> Opening the first, he found a shroud adorned with garlands of willow and olive leaves, wild celery, lotus petals, and cornflowers, the faded evidence of a burial in March or April.          |
| adorned               | Decorated or made more attractive. Here it describes the ornamentation of the burial cloth. <b>Example:</b> Opening the first, he found a shroud adorned with garlands of willow and olive leaves, wild celery, lotus petals, and cornflowers, the faded evidence of a burial in March or April.                                              |
| garlands              | Decorative arrangements of flowers or leaves, often made into chains or wreaths. Their remains supplied clues about when Tut was buried. <b>Example:</b> Opening the first, he found a shroud adorned with garlands of willow and olive leaves, wild celery, lotus petals, and cornflowers, the faded evidence of a burial in March or April. |
| ritual resins         | Sticky substances used during religious burial practices. They had hardened and fixed Tut's body firmly to the coffin. <b>Example:</b> The ritual resins had hardened, cementing Tut to the bottom of his solid gold coffin.                                                                                                                  |
| resins                | Sticky substances, often obtained from plants, that can harden over time. Here they acted like an adhesive around the mummy. <b>Example:</b> The ritual resins had hardened, cementing Tut to the bottom of his solid gold coffin.                                                                                                            |
| cementing             | Fastening things together as firmly as cement would. The hardened resins attached the mummy to the coffin's bottom. <b>Example:</b> The ritual resins had hardened, cementing Tut to the bottom of his solid                                                                                                                                  |

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|                         | gold coffin.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| legitimate force        | Force considered proper or justifiable for the task. Carter meant that ordinary, acceptable efforts could not loosen the hardened material. <b>Example:</b> “No amount of legitimate force could move them,” Carter wrote later.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| beat down like a hammer | Strike with intense, relentless force. The comparison conveys the strength of the Egyptian sun. <b>Example:</b> The sun can beat down like a hammer this far south in Egypt, and Carter tried to use it to loosen the resins.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| blazing sunshine        | Extremely strong, hot sunlight. Carter hoped its heat would soften the hardened resins. <b>Example:</b> For several hours he set the mummy outside in blazing sunshine that heated it to 149 degrees Fahrenheit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| budged                  | Moved even slightly. The brief statement stresses that the heat failed to loosen the mummy. <b>Example:</b> Nothing budged.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| scientific detachment   | An unemotional, objective manner associated with scientific reporting. Carter described the destructive procedure without expressing strong personal feeling. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                 |
| detachment              | Emotional distance or lack of personal involvement. Here it describes the tone of Carter’s report. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                                                                            |
| consolidated material   | Material that has hardened into a firm, solid mass. It refers to the resins that held the mummy in place. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                                                                     |
| chiselled away          | Removed by cutting or chipping with a chisel. Carter’s team used this method to free the body from the hardened material. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                                                     |
| limbs and trunk         | The arms and legs together with the main part of the body. The phrase identifies the areas beneath which the hardened material had to be removed. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                             |
| trunk                   | The central part of the body, excluding the head and limbs. Here it refers to the mummy’s torso. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                                                                              |
| remains                 | What is left of a body after death. The word respectfully identifies Tut’s preserved body. <b>Example:</b> He reported with scientific detachment that “the consolidated material had to be chiselled away from beneath the limbs and trunk before it was possible to raise the king’s remains.”                                                                                                                                    |
| circumvented            | Found a way around an obstacle or restriction. Carter argued that thieves would have evaded the guards to reach the gold. <b>Example:</b> If he hadn’t cut the mummy free, thieves most certainly would have circumvented the guards and ripped it apart to remove the gold.                                                                                                                                                        |
| the great beyond        | A figurative expression for the world after death. It reflects the belief that Tut would continue his journey in another existence. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold. |
| lavished with           | Given something in very large or generous amounts. The expression emphasises the wealth of objects supplied for Tut’s afterlife. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

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|                     | lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| inlaid              | Decorated by setting pieces of another material into a surface. It describes the craftsmanship of some of the jewellery. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold.           |
| amulets             | Objects worn or carried because they are believed to offer protection or good fortune. They formed part of Tut's burial equipment. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold. |
| ceremonial          | Used for a formal or religious occasion. The apron was part of the king's ritual attire. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold.                                           |
| sheaths             | Close-fitting protective coverings. Here they were gold coverings for Tut's fingers and toes. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold.                                      |
| iconic              | Widely recognised and regarded as a representative symbol. Tut's gold coffin and mask have become famous images of ancient Egypt. <b>Example:</b> For his journey to the great beyond, King Tut was lavished with glittering goods: precious collars, inlaid necklaces and bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths for his fingers and toes, and the now iconic inner coffin and mask — all of pure gold.  |
| adornments          | Decorations or ornaments worn on the body. Carter's team separated these valuable objects from the mummy. <b>Example:</b> To separate Tut from his adornments, Carter's men removed the mummy's head and severed nearly every major joint.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| severed             | Cut through or separated by cutting. The word conveys the serious physical damage caused during the removal of Tut's ornaments. <b>Example:</b> To separate Tut from his adornments, Carter's men removed the mummy's head and severed nearly every major joint.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| reassembled         | Put separate parts back together. The team arranged the damaged remains again after removing the ornaments. <b>Example:</b> Once they had finished, they reassembled the remains on a layer of sand in a wooden box with padding that concealed the damage, the bed where Tut now rests.                                                                                                                                           |
| concealed           | Hid something from view. Padding was used to make the damage to the mummy less visible. <b>Example:</b> Once they had finished, they reassembled the remains on a layer of sand in a wooden box with padding that concealed the damage, the bed where Tut now rests.                                                                                                                                                               |
| intervening decades | The periods of ten years between two events or points in time. Here they are the years separating Carter's work from later scientific investigations. <b>Example:</b> Archaeology has changed substantially in the intervening decades, focusing less on treasure and more on the fascinating details of life and intriguing mysteries of death.                                                                                   |
| intriguing          | Arousing curiosity because something is unusual or mysterious. The word describes unanswered questions surrounding death. <b>Example:</b> Archaeology has changed substantially in the intervening decades, focusing less on treasure and more on the fascinating details of life and intriguing mysteries of death.                                                                                                               |
| sophisticated tools | Advanced instruments designed to perform complex tasks. Modern                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|                                | archaeology can use medical equipment to investigate remains more carefully. <b>Example:</b> It also uses more sophisticated tools, including medical technology.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| sophisticated                  | Highly developed or technically advanced. Here it describes the equipment used by modern researchers. <b>Example:</b> It also uses more sophisticated tools, including medical technology.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| anatomy                        | The study of the structure of bodies and their parts. The professor used X-rays to investigate the physical condition of the mummy. <b>Example:</b> In 1968, more than 40 years after Carter's discovery, an anatomy professor X-rayed the mummy and revealed a startling fact: beneath the resin that cakes his chest, his breast-bone and front ribs are missing.                                  |
| startling                      | Very surprising or unexpected. It describes the discovery that parts of Tut's chest were missing. <b>Example:</b> In 1968, more than 40 years after Carter's discovery, an anatomy professor X-rayed the mummy and revealed a startling fact: beneath the resin that cakes his chest, his breast-bone and front ribs are missing.                                                                    |
| cakes                          | Forms a thick, hardened coating over something. Here it describes the resin covering Tut's chest. <b>Example:</b> In 1968, more than 40 years after Carter's discovery, an anatomy professor X-rayed the mummy and revealed a startling fact: beneath the resin that cakes his chest, his breast-bone and front ribs are missing.                                                                    |
| diagnostic imaging             | Methods of producing images of the inside of a body to examine its condition. In the chapter, these methods help researchers study the mummy. <b>Example:</b> Today diagnostic imaging can be done with computed tomography, or CT, by which hundreds of X-rays in cross section are put together like slices of bread to create a three-dimensional virtual body.                                   |
| computed tomography            | A technique that combines multiple X-ray measurements to produce sectional images of a body. Computer processing can also use them to build a three-dimensional representation. <b>Example:</b> Today diagnostic imaging can be done with computed tomography, or CT, by which hundreds of X-rays in cross section are put together like slices of bread to create a three-dimensional virtual body. |
| cross section                  | A view showing the inside of something as though it had been cut through. The scan creates many such views of Tut's body. <b>Example:</b> Today diagnostic imaging can be done with computed tomography, or CT, by which hundreds of X-rays in cross section are put together like slices of bread to create a three-dimensional virtual body.                                                       |
| three-dimensional virtual body | A computer-generated representation showing the body's length, width and depth. It allows examination of internal structures without physically dismantling the mummy. <b>Example:</b> Today diagnostic imaging can be done with computed tomography, or CT, by which hundreds of X-rays in cross section are put together like slices of bread to create a three-dimensional virtual body.          |
| demise                         | Death, usually expressed in a formal manner. Here it introduces the political significance of Tut's death. <b>Example:</b> King Tut's demise was a big event, even by royal standards.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| the death rattle of a dynasty  | A metaphor suggesting the final sign that a ruling family is coming to an end. Tut's funeral symbolised the close of his family's royal line. <b>Example:</b> He was the last of his family's line, and his funeral was the death rattle of a dynasty.                                                                                                                                               |
| dynasty                        | A succession of rulers belonging to the same family. Tut was the last ruler in his family's line. <b>Example:</b> He was the last of his family's line, and his funeral was the death rattle of a dynasty.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| particulars                    | The precise facts or details of something. Here the exact circumstances of Tut's death remain uncertain. <b>Example:</b> But the particulars of his passing away and its aftermath are unclear.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| aftermath                      | The consequences or events that follow an important, often disturbing occurrence. Here it refers to what followed Tut's death. <b>Example:</b> But the particulars of his passing away and its aftermath are unclear.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| golden age                     | A period of exceptional power, prosperity or achievement. It describes the flourishing period of the eighteenth dynasty. <b>Example:</b> Amenhotep III — Tut's father or grandfather — was a powerful                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|                       | pharaoh who ruled for almost four decades at the height of the eighteenth dynasty's golden age.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| succeeded             | Took over a position after another person. Amenhotep IV became ruler after Amenhotep III. <b>Example:</b> His son Amenhotep IV succeeded him and initiated one of the strangest periods in the history of ancient Egypt.                                                                                     |
| initiated             | Began or set something in motion. The new ruler introduced major changes in Egyptian religious life. <b>Example:</b> His son Amenhotep IV succeeded him and initiated one of the strangest periods in the history of ancient Egypt.                                                                          |
| horrific              | Extremely shocking, frightening or distressing. The description conveys the disruption associated with Akhenaten's religious changes. <b>Example:</b> "It must have been a horrific time," said Ray Johnson, director of the University of Chicago's research centre in Luxor, the site of ancient Thebes.   |
| wacky                 | Informally, eccentric or behaving in a very unusual way. The quoted speaker uses it to characterise Akhenaten's radical actions. <b>Example:</b> "The family that had ruled for centuries was coming to an end, and then Akhenaten went a little wacky."                                                     |
| hardly a trace        | Almost no evidence of a presence or activity. The expression emphasises how little is known about Smenkhkare's brief appearance as ruler. <b>Example:</b> After Akhenaten's death, a mysterious ruler named Smenkhkare appeared briefly and exited with hardly a trace.                                      |
| took the throne       | Became the ruler or monarch. It marks the beginning of the young Tutankhaten's reign. <b>Example:</b> And then a very young Tutankhaten took the throne — King Tut as he's widely known today.                                                                                                               |
| oversaw a restoration | Supervised a return to an earlier condition or practice. Tut supported the revival of the older religious ways. <b>Example:</b> The boy king soon changed his name to Tutankhamun, 'living image of Amun,' and oversaw a restoration of the old ways.                                                        |
| restoration           | The act of bringing something back to its former state. Here it means reviving earlier Egyptian religious practices. <b>Example:</b> The boy king soon changed his name to Tutankhamun, 'living image of Amun,' and oversaw a restoration of the old ways.                                                   |
| reigned               | Ruled as a king or queen. It describes the period during which Tut held royal power. <b>Example:</b> He reigned for about nine years —and then died unexpectedly.                                                                                                                                            |
| inventory             | A detailed list or record of items. The Egyptian Mummy Project began recording the mummies known to researchers. <b>Example:</b> The Egyptian Mummy project, which began an inventory in late 2003, has recorded almost 600 so far and is still counting.                                                    |
| portable              | Designed to be moved or carried from place to place. The scanner could be taken to the mummies rather than requiring them all to travel elsewhere. <b>Example:</b> The next phase: scanning the mummies with a portable CT machine donated by the National Geographic Society and Siemens, its manufacturer. |
| regally               | In a manner befitting a king or queen. The word playfully suggests that Tut retained royal precedence even after death. <b>Example:</b> King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned — in death, as in life, moving regally ahead of his countrymen.                                                   |
| intricate structures  | Complex arrangements containing many small, connected details. The scan recorded the fine internal features of Tut's head. <b>Example:</b> Tut's head, scanned in 0.62 millimetre slices to register its intricate structures, takes on eerie detail in the resulting image.                                 |
| intricate             | Complicated and made up of many closely connected parts. Here it describes structures revealed by the scan. <b>Example:</b> Tut's head, scanned in 0.62 millimetre slices to register its intricate structures, takes on eerie detail in the resulting image.                                                |
| eerie detail          | A level of visible detail that seems strange or unsettling. The scan gives a remarkably clear view of a person who died thousands of years ago. <b>Example:</b> Tut's head, scanned in 0.62 millimetre slices to register its intricate structures, takes on eerie detail in the resulting image.            |
| eerie                 | Strange and unsettling, sometimes suggesting something ghostly. It                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|                      | contributes to the mysterious atmosphere surrounding the mummy. <b>Example:</b> Tut's head, scanned in 0.62 millimetre slices to register its intricate structures, takes on eerie detail in the resulting image.                                                                                                                                                                    |
| radiology            | The field concerned with imaging the body using methods such as X-rays and CT scans. Its specialists help interpret the images of Tut. <b>Example:</b> With Tut's entire body similarly recorded, a team of specialists in radiology, forensics, and anatomy began to probe the secrets that the winged goddesses of a gilded burial shrine protected for so long.                   |
| forensics            | The scientific examination of evidence to investigate events or establish facts. Here it helps researchers explore questions about Tut's life and death. <b>Example:</b> With Tut's entire body similarly recorded, a team of specialists in radiology, forensics, and anatomy began to probe the secrets that the winged goddesses of a gilded burial shrine protected for so long. |
| burial shrine        | A sacred structure or enclosure associated with a burial. Its gilded protective imagery surrounded the royal remains. <b>Example:</b> With Tut's entire body similarly recorded, a team of specialists in radiology, forensics, and anatomy began to probe the secrets that the winged goddesses of a gilded burial shrine protected for so long.                                    |
| pallbearers          | People who carry a coffin at a funeral. The comparison makes the workmen's careful movement of Tut resemble another funeral procession. <b>Example:</b> Like pallbearers they climbed a ramp and a flight of stairs into the swirling sand outside, then rose on a hydraulic lift into the trailer that held the scanner.                                                            |
| hydraulic lift       | A lifting device operated by the pressure of liquid. It raised the workmen and the mummy into the scanner's trailer. <b>Example:</b> Like pallbearers they climbed a ramp and a flight of stairs into the swirling sand outside, then rose on a hydraulic lift into the trailer that held the scanner.                                                                               |
| emerged              | Came out from an enclosed place or into view. The men came out of the trailer when the scanner stopped working. <b>Example:</b> Twenty minutes later two men emerged, sprinted for an office nearby, and returned with a pair of white plastic fans.                                                                                                                                 |
| sprinted             | Ran at full speed over a short distance. The word conveys the urgency of fetching replacement fans. <b>Example:</b> Twenty minutes later two men emerged, sprinted for an office nearby, and returned with a pair of white plastic fans.                                                                                                                                             |
| substitute           | Something used in place of another thing. The replacement fans allowed the scanning procedure to continue. <b>Example:</b> Eventually the substitute fans worked well enough to finish the procedure.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| technicians          | Workers trained to operate or maintain specialised equipment. They checked that the scan data had been recorded safely. <b>Example:</b> After checking that no data had been lost, the technicians turned Tut over to the workmen, who carried him back to his tomb.                                                                                                                 |
| pixels               | The tiny picture elements that make up a digital image. Their arrangement produced the computer image of Tut's head. <b>Example:</b> A grey head took shape from a scattering of pixels, and the technician spun and tilted it in every direction.                                                                                                                                   |
| vertebrae            | The individual bones that form the spinal column. The scan clearly displayed those in Tut's neck. <b>Example:</b> Neck vertebrae appeared as clearly as in an anatomy class.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| rib cage             | The framework of ribs and associated bones surrounding the chest. The images provided several views of this part of the body. <b>Example:</b> Other images revealed a hand, several views of the rib cage, and a transection of the skull.                                                                                                                                           |
| transection          | A view or section across a structure. Here it refers to a sectional image through the skull. <b>Example:</b> Other images revealed a hand, several views of the rib cage, and a transection of the skull.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| the pressure was off | The immediate strain or anxiety had eased. The successful completion of the scan relieved the team's worries. <b>Example:</b> But for now the pressure was off.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| visibly relieved     | Showing clear outward signs that worry has lessened. Hawass's expression revealed his relief that the procedure had gone well. <b>Example:</b> Sitting back in his chair, Zahi Hawass smiled, visibly                                                                                                                                                                                |

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Eng XI.1.3 Glossary

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|               | relieved that nothing had gone seriously wrong.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| the departed  | People who have died. The respectful expression reinforces the solemn atmosphere of the royal burial valley. <b>Example:</b> The winter air lay cold and still, like death itself, in this valley of the departed.                                                                                                     |
| constellation | A recognised pattern of stars in the sky. Here Orion is linked with the ancient Egyptian belief concerning Osiris. <b>Example:</b> Just above the entrance to Tut's tomb stood Orion — the constellation that the ancient Egyptians knew as the soul of Osiris, the god of the afterlife — watching over the boy king. |

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