HOW WAS EGYPTIAN SOCIETY ORGANIZED?

Read the following statements. Complete the sentence at the end of the reading selection by choosing one of the following words from the word bank.

WORD BANK

1. a **Pharaoh** (Egyptian King/God) 2. a **slave farmer** 3. a **high priest/priestess** 4. a **scribe** (official writer and record keeper) 5. a **merchant** 6. a **fisherman**

"My life is so terrible that I only hope that the next life will be better. During the growing season, I must work long hours in the hot Egyptian sun, performing backbreaking labor. During the winter months, I must serve the Pharaoh and work in his palaces and temples."

This speaker is probably _____

"My power here on Earth like in the Heavens is unlimited. I am not just a powerful ruler whose every word must be obeyed, but I am also a god. And as a god, when my earthy body dies, enormous pyramids must be built to honor me. If you disobey my commands, Osiris will judge you harshly."

This speaker is probably _____

"Unlike so many of my fellow Egyptians, I have many skills. The most important one is that only I can keep records of different ceremonies as well as who has paid their taxes. Today most people in modern times have my skills, but back in the day, there were very few who had my skills."
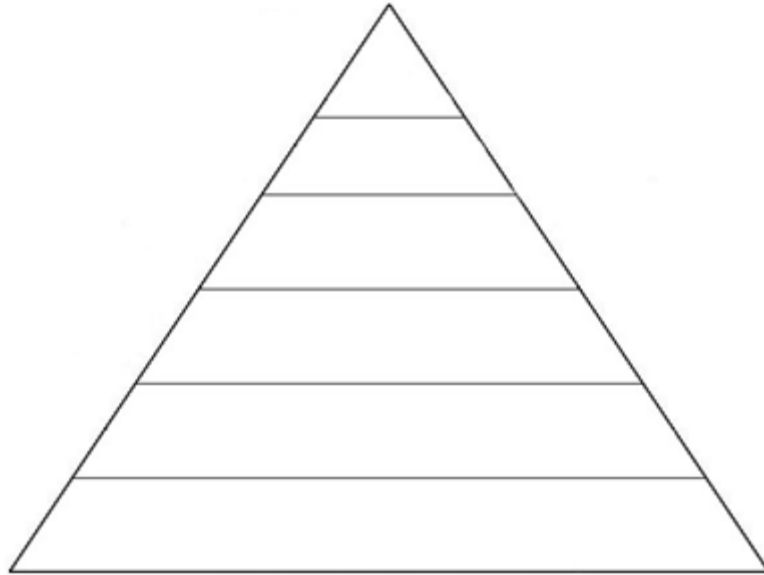
This speaker is probably _____

"Sometimes business is very slow and I don't sell any papyrus (paper), robes, or sandals. Luckily I always have many customers for my dried iced drinks. Thanks Osiris for having such a strong Egyptian sun or I would be out of business. Or worse, I would be working behind the counter at McDonalds."

This speaker is probably _____

"Our day can be very hectic. In the morning we must make sacrifices to the Sun God, Amon-Re, in the afternoon we must make sacrifices to the goddess Isis, and finally in the evening we must make sacrifices to the god of the dead, Osiris. Everyday we must do these rituals. So don't complain if you must go to church or the mosque once a week."

This speaker is probably _____

Which Egyptian social class belongs in each of the following positions