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Vocabulary

Definitions from Merriam Webster Dictionary

1. **Scribe**
noun: "A person who copies out documents, especially one employed to do this before printing was invented."
2. **Literacy**
noun: "The ability to read and write."
3. **Patrilineal**
adjective: "Relating to, based on, or tracing descent through the paternal line."
4. **Hieratic (script)**
noun: "A cursive form of Egyptian hieroglyphics used especially by the priests."
5. **Demotic (script)**
noun: "Of or relating to a simplified form of ancient Egyptian writing."
6. **Coptic (language/script)**
noun: "The latest stage of the Egyptian language, written using the Greek alphabet with some extra letters."
7. **Syntax**
noun: "The way in which words are put together to form phrases or sentences."
8. **Papyri**
plural noun of papyrus: "A material similar to thick paper used in ancient times as a writing surface."
9. **Sub-elite**
adjective/noun (not in MW, but explainable): "A social group just below the highest status tier, still possessing some power or privilege."
10. **Ghostwriter**
noun: "A person who writes for another who is the named author."
11. **Dictate**
verb: "To say or read aloud for someone else to write down."
12. **Petition**
noun: "A formal written request made to an authority."
13. **Lex Julia**
noun: A Roman law granting privileges, such as legal independence, to women who had borne a certain number of children.
14. **ius liberorum**
Latin term: "Right of children" – a Roman legal privilege (can be translated simply in-text as a law benefiting women with multiple children).
15. **Guardian (in legal context)**
noun: "One who has the care of the person or property of another."

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