

Figure 1 An example of early hieroglyphics

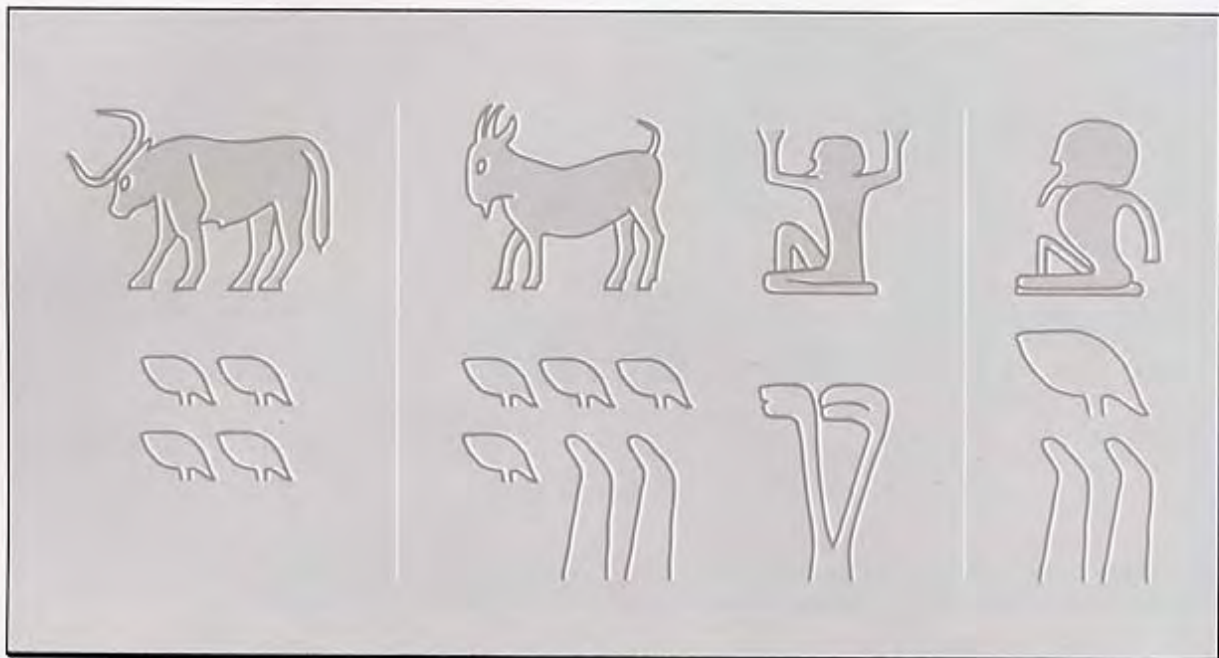
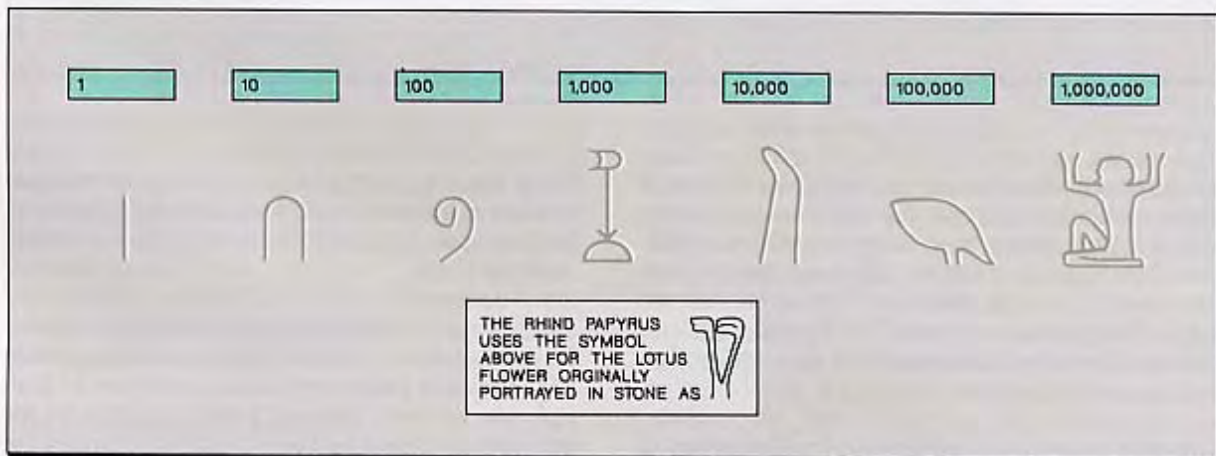


Figure 2 The key to hieroglyphic numbers



of historical pharaohs, who united the two kingdoms of Egypt. With Figure 2 as our key, we read that he captured 400 000 oxen, 1 422 000 goats, and 120 000 prisoners.

Although the variables are named, the example lacks the equivalent of APL's assignment arrow. A

hundred is represented in hieroglyphics by a picture of the coiled rope used by Egyptian surveyors, or "rope-stretchers," whose descendants today use the "chain" as a unit of measurement. We should remember that Eratosthenes, the director of the great library in Alexandria, was the first to measure the earth's circumference, thus initiating the science of