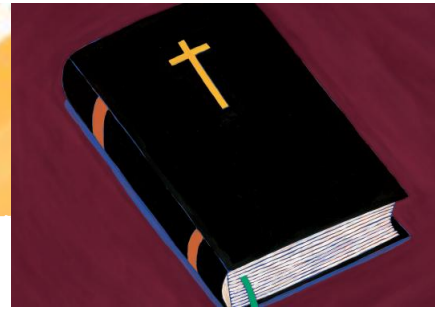


28 THE BIBLE



EXERCISE 1



The following could have been a conversation between two young men, Hiram and Elkanah, at the time of the prophets.

Hiram: Elkanah, how nice to see you. I haven't seen you for a long time.

Elkanah: That's not surprising. For some time now I've been a student.
I'm learning to be a scribe.
That doesn't leave me with much spare time.

Hiram: You want to be a scribe? What made you decide that?

Elkanah: Very simple. My father is also a scribe.
The occupation is a family tradition.

Hiram: How interesting! I see you're already carrying your writing implement on your belt.

Elkanah: I find it very interesting writing down the prophesies of the prophets or copying out the old, holy writings.

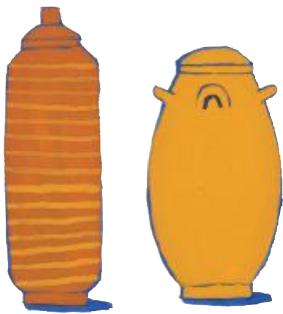
Hiram: How long do you still have to study?

Elkanah: I'll be finished with school in two years, but I have to practise my whole life.



Occasionally the city gates were used as places of learning.

ILLUSTRATIONS



Scrolls were kept in clay jars such as these



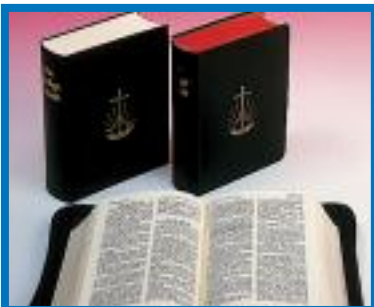
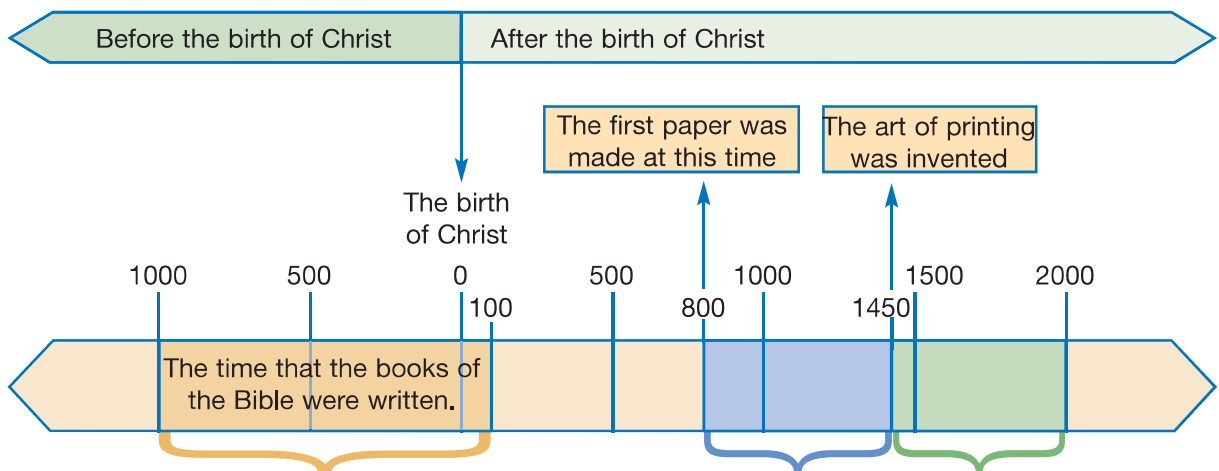
Of all the Dead Sea Scrolls found, this one is the best preserved. It consists of 17 leather leaves which have been sewn together to make one strip. The scroll is 7.34 m long, 26 cm high, and rolled up it is 12 cm thick. It was written in Hebrew between 200 and 150 before Christ. It is called Isaiah Scroll because it contains the entire Book of Isaiah.

EXERCISE 2



PART 1

Using arrows, indicate which time period the depictions of the Bible are associated with.



EXERCISE 2



Insert the following words and phrases below.

art of printing – the books – AD 100 – Scripture – leather – papyrus – parchment –
1000 BC – collection – scrolls – authors – future

The books of the Bible are very old writings. They were written during the time from

about _____ to _____. The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek,

meaning _____. This term can be deduced from the fact that the Bible is

a _____ of writings which were written by different _____.

At the time the biblical books were written, paper did not yet exist. At that time one wrote primarily

on _____, sometimes on expensive _____, and

later also on _____. The book as we know it today was not yet known.

_____ were used. Until the _____ had been invented,

Bible text could only be duplicated by copying it out in writing. Today almost every family has a Bible,

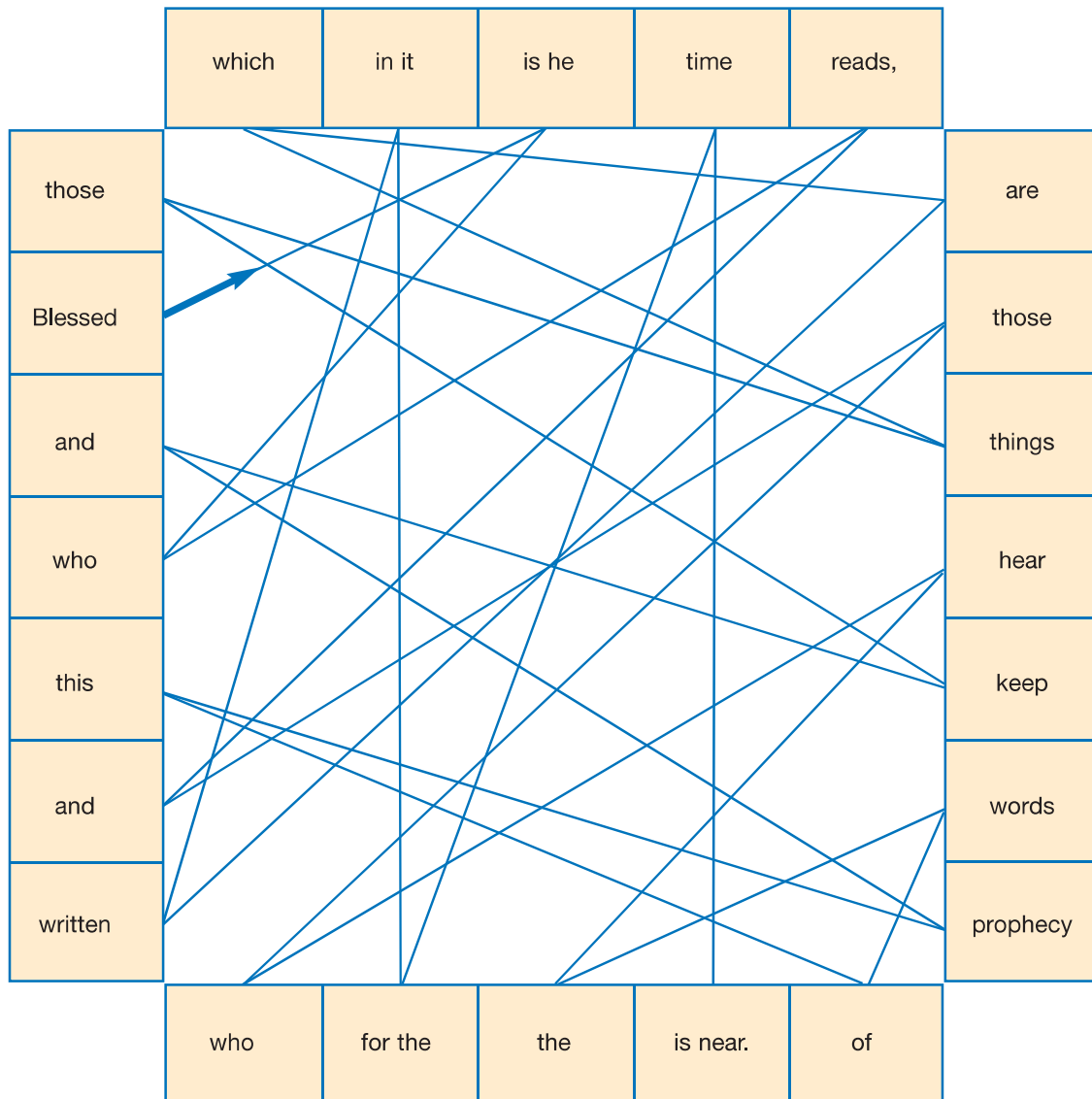
also known as _____. It reports about the workings of God and also indicates what

will happen in the _____.

EXERCISE 3



If you follow the lines, starting at the arrow, you will derive Revelation 1:3.



Solution: