Ancient Egypt and Chess:

Like the Mesopotamians, Egyptians were sociable people who enjoyed playing games. Board games were especially popular, including one called *Senet*, a racing game in which players tried to reach the realm of the gods. *Senet* is very similar to modern chess.

Another game called *Snake* used a snake-shaped board.

Other games familiar to us, such as backgammon, were also popular.

**[](http://www.metmuseum.org/Collections/search-the-collections/100005246?rpp=20&pg=94&ao=on&ft=*&what=Paintings&pos=1862)**

A wall painting from the Tomb of Queen Nefertari, the wife of Ramses II, depicting the queen playing *Senet*

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