

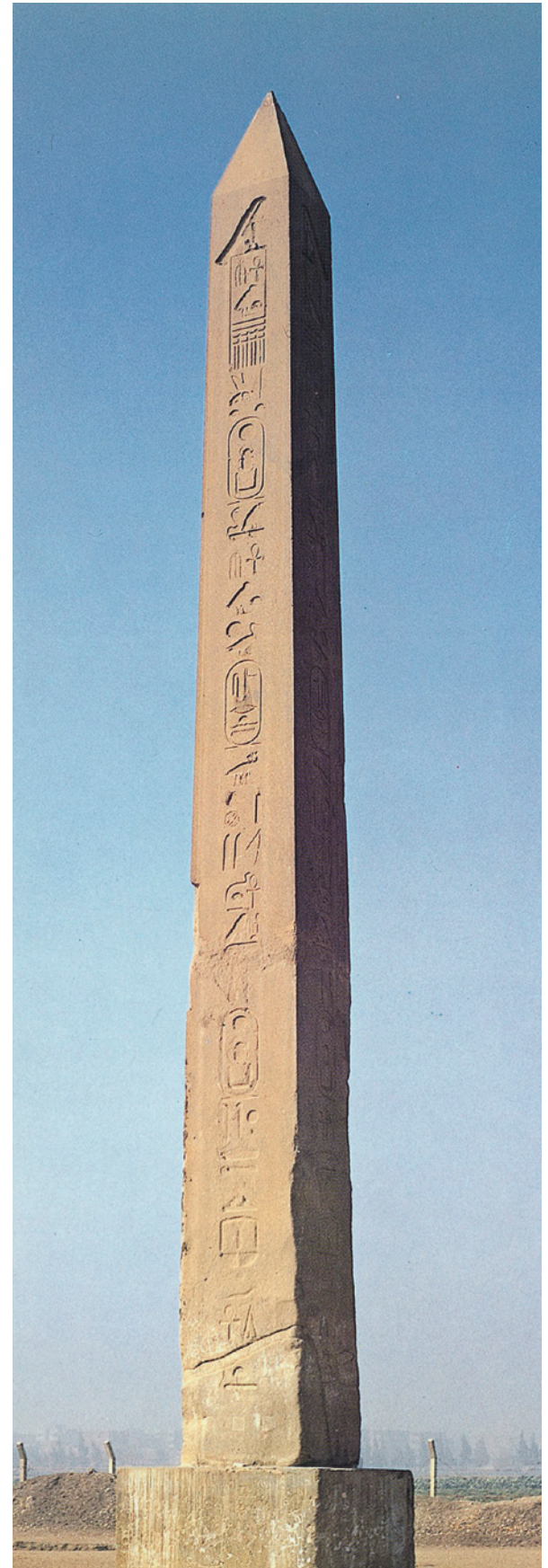
The Egyptian obelisk

The **obelisk** is a typical Egyptian art monument. As a fundamental element of sepulchral complexes, the obelisk represents the bridge between heaven and earth, a symbol of the strong link between the Pharaoh and the God of the Sun.

The **Obelisk of Sesostri I** **FIG. 1** is one of the oldest ones and yet it already has the necessary characteristics to last many centuries. It consists of a base on which stands a monolithic pillar with a square base and a slightly tapered top, which ends with a pyramid-shaped cusp (the pyramidion) processed separately. There are inscribed **hieroglyphs** on all sides of the pillar, from top to bottom. The obelisk was a very popular monument also in Rome, where many were transported to embellish squares and fountains, such as the Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi by Gian Lorenzo Bernini in Piazza Navona **FIG. 2**.

Taking inspiration from the diagram on the opposite page, draw an obelisk in orthogonal projection, then enrich it with all the details, such as colour and hieroglyphs.

FIG. 1 The Obelisk of Sesostri I, Heliopolis, 1925 BC



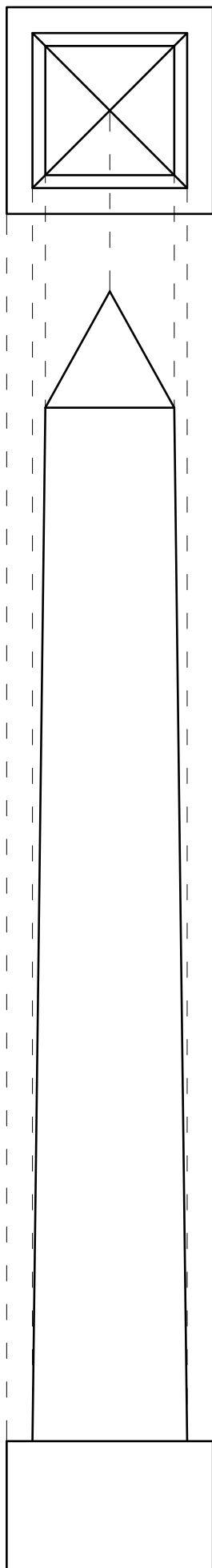


FIG. 2 The Egyptian obelisk, part of the Fontana dei Quattro Fiumi, Piazza Navona, Rome

