

Summary of an Article

Article: (Parcak, S. Holt, H. Merchant, J, editor) Adventures of a Space Archaeologist. 2019. Nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01972-3. Accessed 30th Oct. 2020)

This article's overall aim, is to inform the reader of the joys and benefits of being a space archaeologist - and using modern and specialised machinery. The article also generates some lesser-recognised motives that provide an even deeper glimpse into the adventures, a space archaeologist embarks upon.

At the beginning of the article, the author aims to engage and entice the reader the by stating the immediate and obvious benefits of taking up this profession. The author uses her own discovery and particular use of technology to discover the layout of the ancient capital city of Egypt, Tanis. Expanding on this - the author also describes how she won the National Geographic Explorer grant, and one million Dollars (\$1,000,000) as a TED prize. The hidden but important underlying message is the catastrophic domino-like effect, Space archaeology can have on the future. Using the most modern and high-tech equipment available, the author hints at how it can unlock more doors into the past, and provide more diverse paths for human development into the future.

Later on in the article, the author goes into detail about the possibilities and opportunities of this modern technology, and how it can be adapted to work in different environments, such as underwater. The intent of this section, is to further promote the capabilities and opportunities of working as and using technologies of a space archaeologist. The author uses real figures to describe the potential areas of discovery and understanding, still yet to be uncovered. Figures 'in the ball park' of around fifty million (50,000,000) are stated to emphasise just how much is still left undiscovered. Just like the earlier section of the Article, the author includes a subtle but very prominent message, not all readers would catch. The author is implying that the future is now; and we have the power and capability to execute the exciting task of archaeological discovery. Relating to the immense amount of undiscovered heritage - the benefits are almost endless. Each site can contain a vastly different package of knowledge that could be used in numerous different ways - to benefit humans of today.

Lastly, the author touches upon some 'Pet Projects', Parcak has undertaken. This comprises of building a team of budding archaeologists, to carry out research and study. Further highlighting the importance and development potential of space archaeology.

To conclude, the article's main goal is to inform the reader about the benefits, capabilities and possibilities of space archaeology and its various technologies. Relating to this, many underlying and slightly hidden messages have been implemented. This conveys the author's intentions on a more subtle but - arguably - more impactful scale.