During your visit to the Mummies exhibition, you learned that the people of ancient Egypt and ancient Peru created mummies. Now you will write an essay in which you will describe two mummies that you observed in the exhibition.

First, write an introduction to your essay. Then, describe a mummy from ancient Peru. Your description should include both what it looks like on the outside and what its scan shows about the inside. Include a labeled drawing of the mummy with a caption. Next, describe a mummy from ancient Egypt. Your description should include both what it looks like on the outside and what its scan shows about the inside. Include a labeled drawing of the mummy with a caption. Lastly, write a concluding paragraph.

Long ago, people believed in mummification to preserve the human body after someone had died. It was known to them as a way of respecting the dead and it considered as a privilege to many. What we understand is that a person is covered in cloth and placed in a coffin, but there is actually a lot more behind these basic facts that we do not know. In fact, the different types of ancient cultures such as Peru and Egypt, each have a different way of turning the dead to mummies.

In Ancient Peru, the people that lived there had a very unique way of preserving the dead, which was to just put the human remains in a sack and tie it. Then they would put the person's belongings and valuable beside them to take in the afterlife.

One example was a Peruvian woman with her two young children. By studying the patterns in the bones, researchers found that the mummy would have been wrapped at some time between 1000 - 1400 A.D. Inside was indeed three people: a lady at around twenty years of age, as well as her two-year-old, and six-year-old children. The bundle included human's skulls, bones, and cartilage. The cartilage was probably mostly from the children, since their bones were still soft, and not fully grown.
The outside looked to be an old, tattered-up sack that is closed with rope. The inside of the mummy is a group of bones. The sack was very uneven on the surface, since there were many pieces of bones left in it. The woman had probably been very poor because of what else was in the coffin. Unlike a merchant or a ruler, instead of having gold or jewels, this woman was left with nothing but her three weaving needles that were probably used to make the cloth to cover her with, a piece of colored rope, and a small, empty basket.

In Ancient Egypt, they also had a very distinctive form of mummification. The Egyptian mummies had been left in the shape of an actual body. Some parts of the body were also removed. One example is of an Egyptian mummy made around 664-332 BCE. A scan shows that only a few parts of the body were left to preserve. Important organs like the liver, lungs, and the stomach were moved to a different place. However, the heart of the person was left since it had been thought to be an essential part for the afterlife. The heart was recognized as the source of emotion and intellect. The inside of the mummy looked like a skeleton, and the outside was wrapped with a light brown cloth in the shape of a human body. The surmise did seem like a body, and the scans proved that this was true.

In conclusion, each culture has its own way of preserving their dead bodies. The Peruvian mummies and the Egyptian mummies are both similar and different in many ways. First, they both go through the process of removing parts of
the body like skin and organs, in addition, they both put the people with some of their valued belongings. They both wrap the remains in cloth. However, the way that they wrap it is different. The Egyptians pay careful attention to wrap the dead very well, so that the final product will look like a real human body. While the Peruvians just place the remains in a sack. Peruvians can also weave their own cloth to wrap their dead relatives. These examples show how mummification can be very interesting.
Caption:
This is an illustration of a Peruvian mummy, which contains some of the bones and skulls from a small family of one mother, and two of her small children. On the side are some of the only things that they own, which are needles, rope, and a few baskets.
Caption:

This is an illustration of an Egyptian mummy that was made at around 664 - 332 BC. Beside it are the person's organs that were taken out before he was wrapped.