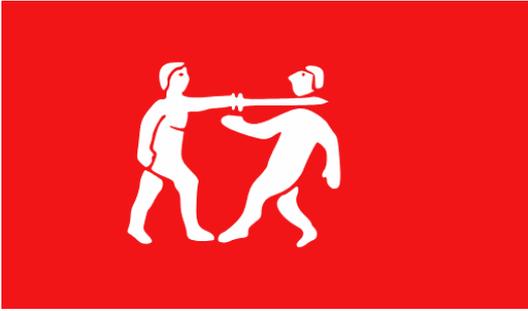


Year 5 History

The Kingdom of Ancient Benin





Name: _____

Class: _____

Insert KO here

LESSON 5: Whose Artefacts are they?

Part 1: Quiz

1. How do we know about the culture and life of the Kingdom of Ancient Benin?
 - a) Through studying artefacts
 - b) From written records
 - c) From stories handed down through generations
 - d) Through inventions that we still use today

2. Why are the Benin bronzes important?
 - a) They teach us about Ancient Benin's religious beliefs

- b) They teach us about the skilled craftworkers of Ancient Benin
- c) They show us how important the Oba was
- d) All of the above

3. How did the people of Benin make links with other people, including Europeans?

- a) By writing letters
- b) Through trade
- c) By invading their countries
- d) By going on holiday

4. The Kingdom of Ancient Benin reached the height of its powers in the 1500s. Which era of British History was this?

- a) The Victorians
- b) The Vikings
- c) The Tudors
- d) The Anglo-Saxons

5. Write a definition of the following Historical terms:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Empire | |
| Civilisation | |
| Oba | |
| Artefact | |



Part 2: Setting the context - What was the British Empire?



Part 3: Why are so many artefacts from Benin in the British Museum?

For 200 years, Benin was very successful, but in the 1600s, the Obas started to lose control of

their people. By the 1800s, Benin was no longer strong or united. In 1897, the British army invaded and made Benin a part of the British Empire. They took many artefacts and bronze sculptures with them and many of these are in the British Museum. Nigeria has sought the return of these artefacts on several occasions, just as with Greece and the Elgin marbles and Egypt and the Rosetta stone. So far, the British museum has refused to return any artefacts. However, the French government has recently agreed to return the Benin bronzes from French museums.

1) When did the British army invade Ancient Benin? _____

2) What did they take? _____

3) Why do you think the British Museum has not returned any plunder?



Part 4: Should the British Museum return the Benin bronzes?

| Pros | Cons |
|------|------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

Debating language

I strongly believe

Some might say

On the one hand...

On the other...

I urge you to consider

However,

Who could possibly think

Without question

Another point of view

It could be argued

Furthermore

In conclusion



A large rectangular area with a black border, containing 15 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box, leaving a small margin at the top and bottom.