**West African kingdoms knowledge tests**

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| **1. The origin of the Kingdom of Benin** |
| 1 | The kingdoms of Benin and Asante existed in which part of Africa? | West Africa |
| 2 | The Kingdom of Benin existed in which modern-day country? | Nigeria |
| 3 | The leaders of the Benin Kingdom were known as ‘Ogisos’. Ogisos means...? | Rulers of the sky |
| 4 | ‘Oba’ is the word for what in the Benin Kingdom? | Ruler |
| 5 | The first ruler of the Benin Kingdom was...? | Oba Ewuare |
| 6 | Oba Ewuare was the first of the ‘warrior kings’. How many warrior kings were there? | Five |
| 7 | The Benin Kingdom traded with European countries. What was the main country that Oba Ewuare traded with? | Portugal |
| 8 | When did Portuguese travellers first reach the Benin Kingdom? | 1485 |
| 9 | What system in Benin did Oba Ewuare improve, which helped with trade? | Road systems |
| 10 | What did Oba Ewuare use the money from the Portuguese to pay for? | To build a strong army and conquer more land |

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| **2. What was life like in Great Benin?** |
| 1 | Benin City was the capital city of the Benin Kingdom. What was Benin City also called? | Great Benin or Edo |
| 2 | Which European country first traded with Benin? | Portugal |
| 3 | What is useful archaeological evidence today of how important Benin City was? | The walls of Benin City |
| 4 | After a European trader arrived in Benin City, they had to do what? | They had to present a gift to the Oba |
| 5 | What were the main products sold in Benin City? | Bronzes and pepper  |
| 6 | How important was the mother of the Oba considered to be in the Kingdom of Benin? | Highly important |
| 7 | Queen Idia was the mother of which famous Oba? | Oba Esigie |
| 8 | The queen mother of the Oba was known as what? | The Iyoba |
| 9 | There is an ivory mask of Queen Idia in which museum? | British Museum |
| 10 | The queen mother was equal to what other position? | A senior chief |

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| **3. The roots of the Kingdom of Asante** |
| 1 | The Kingdom of Asante existed in which modern-day country? | Ghana |
| 2 | Which city was the centre of the Asante Kingdom? | Kumasi (sometimes spelled Kumase) |
| 3 | Who is there a statue of in the centre of Kumasi? | Okomfo Anokye |
| 4 | What does ‘Asante’ mean? | ‘Because of war’ |
| 5 | Who was the first leader of the Asante Kingdom? | Osei Tutu I |
| 6 | Who were the Denkyira? | They had ruled over the Asante but Osei Tutu eventually beat them in a battle in 1701 |
| 7 | Where did the Golden Stool come from? | Okomfo Ankoye is said to have summoned it from the sky and it landed on the lap of Osei Tutu |
| 8 | Why are myths useful for societies? | They help to unite people and help people to understand the world |
| 9 | What is the name of the ruler of Asante? | The Asantehene |
| 10 | What is the Golden Stool said to contain? | The soul of the Asante people |

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| **4. Guns and gold in Asante** |
| 1 | What did European guns allow the Asante to do? | Expand their kingdom |
| 2 | What was used as a currency in Asante? | Gold dust |
| 3 | Gold didn’t only give people wealth; what else did it give people? | Power and high status |
| 4 | What happened in 1807 that affected the Asante Kingdom? | Slavery was abolished in parts of the British Empire |
| 5 | Who were the people of Asante increasingly in contact with? | People from outside of the kingdom |
| 6 | As the Asante Kingdom started to decline, what did people start to hoard and bury?  | Gold |
| 7 | Who was Thomas Bowdich?  | An English traveller to Asante in 1817 |
| 8 | Who were the abirempon? | Rich men |
| 9 | Who usually did the trading in the Asante Kingdom?  | Women |
| 10 | What did women not trade in and why?  | Slaves because the Europeans wouldn’t trade with women |

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| **5. Britain’s links to Benin and Asante** |
| 1 | What does the Sankofa bird represent? | It refers to the Asante belief that to move forwards it is necessary to look back to history and properly understand what has happened |
| 2 | What does the Edo (the language of Benin) word for ‘to remember’ also mean? | ‘To make in bronze’ |
| 3 | What do the Benin Bronzes show? | Different scenes from the history of Benin |
| 4 | What was the ‘Scramble for Africa’? | A period when European countries such as Britain, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal and Germany met at a conference in Berlin in 1884 and decided to divide up Africa between them |
| 5 | What is it called when a country takes over another country? | Colonisation |
| 6 | What was invented in 1888 that led to Britain wanting resources from the Benin Kingdom? | Rubber tyres |
| 7 | When Britain colonised Benin, they took the Benin Bronzes. Where are lots of the Benin Bronzes today? | In the British Museum in London  |
| 8 | What did the British order the Asantehene to do in 1873? | Pay Queen Victoria 50,000 ounces of gold |
| 9 | Who led the Asante in the War of the Golden Stool? | Nana Yaa Asantewaa |
| 10 | Why is 1957 a significant year for the people of Asante? | They got independence from the British, and became the country of Ghana  |