

Who Will Take Home the Gold?

The Olympic Games have some of the world's most exciting events – this year the committee has decided to add a new event, the MVP event. For this event, countries will compete to prove they are the MVP country and deserve the coveted gold medal. You have been selected to be part of the judging staff and are focusing on the continent of Africa. You must decide, does Mali undoubtedly deserve the gold medal? If so, who gets the silver?

Competing Civilizations: Benin, Ghana, Kilwa, Hausa, Songhai, Yoruba, or Great Zimbabwe

Task:

1. Travel to Mali and another civilization of your choice and learn everything there is to know about how they live, survive, and thrive. (Use Chapter 15 to help “get you there.”) - Notes in the form of a judging sheet
2. Create a judging sheet that allows you to write down important information you have learned on your travels.
 - a. Important cities
 - b. Trade (what and with whom)
 - c. Government Leadership
 - d. Natural Resources
 - e. Cultural Uniqueness
 - f. This can be done in the form of a Venn-Diagram, T-chart, Idea Web – Pre- Writing Chart- WHATEVER YOU PREFER
3. Create a small visual (powerpoint slide, drawing, etc) showing the map and accomplishments of your African civilization.
4. Write up your final decision – Which country deserves the gold medal? Why? (Remember, you are a judge on the Olympic panel so you must BE SPECIFIC with your response.) 2-3 paragraphs
5. I will tally your votes based on the civilizations written about
6. You may research together, but the paper is individual.

Key Vocabulary Terms:

Name _____

Date _____

- Nile River Valley,
- Sahara Desert,
- Desertification,
- Bantu Migration,
- Iron Age,
- Gold and Salt Route,
- Caravan
- Timbuktu,
- Mansa Musa,
- Inflation
- Ibn Battuta,
- Coastal City States,