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Level 5 – 2nd May, 2021

Germany to return Benin Bronzes to Nigeria

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210502-benin-bronzes-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210502-benin-bronzes-5.html>

Germany will return artefacts that were stolen from Nigeria during the colonial era in the 19th century. The Benin Bronzes are currently in a museum in Leipzig. The Bronzes consist of more than a thousand plaques, sculptures and statues. The Edo people made them from the 13th century in what was the Kingdom of Benin. They decorated the royal palace in what is now Nigeria. British forces looted most of the objects in 1897. Two hundred pieces were taken to the British Museum, while others went to museums across Europe. Nigeria has tried for decades to get them returned.

Experts say the pieces being returned are among the most highly regarded works of African art. Many Nigerians welcome their return. The Institute for Benin Studies said Germany is, "leading in the global restitution movement" of former colonial powers returning looted treasures. It said other countries should acknowledge that the objects looted in 1897 belong to the Benin people. These countries should discuss the future of the objects. Some Nigerians believe the objects are safer in Europe. One man said: "With the insecurity now, the safety of those artefacts cannot be guaranteed."

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/nigeria-welcomes-germanys-decision-to-return-looted-benin-bronzes/a-57382591>
<https://www.thenationalnews.com/arts-culture/germany-to-return-looted-bronzes-to-nigeria-next-year-1.1213865>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benin_Bronzes

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210502-benin-bronzes-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. return artefacts that were | a. Kingdom of Benin |
| 2. during the colonial era | b. most of the objects |
| 3. a thousand plaques, | c. to get them returned |
| 4. in what was the | d. sculptures and statues |
| 5. They decorated | e. in the 19th century |
| 6. British forces looted | f. across Europe |
| 7. others went to museums | g. the royal palace |
| 8. Nigeria has tried for decades | h. stolen from Nigeria |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. among the most highly regarded | a. safer in Europe |
| 2. Many Nigerians | b. movement |
| 3. the global restitution | c. treasures |
| 4. former colonial | d. be guaranteed |
| 5. looted | e. works of African art |
| 6. the objects | f. powers |
| 7. the objects are | g. welcome their return |
| 8. the safety of those artefacts cannot | h. looted in 1897 |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210502-benin-bronzes-5.html>

Germany will (1) _____ were stolen from Nigeria during (2) _____ in the 19th century. The Benin Bronzes are currently in a museum in Leipzig. The Bronzes consist of more than a thousand plaques, (3) _____. The Edo people made them from the 13th century in what was the Kingdom of Benin. They (4) _____ palace in what is now Nigeria. British (5) _____ of the objects in 1897. Two hundred pieces were taken to the British Museum, while others went to museums across Europe. Nigeria has tried for (6) _____ them returned.

Experts say the pieces being returned are among the most (7) _____ of African art. Many Nigerians welcome their return. The Institute for Benin Studies said Germany is, "leading in the global restitution movement" of (8) _____ returning looted treasures. It said other countries should acknowledge that (9) _____ in 1897 belong to the Benin people. These countries should (10) _____ of the objects. Some Nigerians believe the objects are safer in Europe. One man said: "(11) _____ now, the safety of those artefacts (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210502-benin-bronzes-5.html>

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NIGERIA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210502-benin-bronzes-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Nigeria in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

