





Once known as the "Gold Coast," today Ghana is hailed as the golden country of West Africa. It is located in West Africa and uniquely positioned on the globe. The Greenwich Meridian at zero degrees longitude passes through the city of Tema, and the equator cuts just a few degrees south of Ghana. Therefore, if you step on the intersection of the Longitude and the Latitude, and in whichever direction you move, Ghana is the first landmass you would step on. That is why it is often said that, Ghana is closer to the center of the Earth than any other country. Truly one of Africa's great success stories, Ghana is reaping the benefits of a stable democracy, a strong economy and a rapidly exploding tourism industry fueled by forts and castles, beautiful landscapes, many teeming with exotic wildlife, national parks, unique art and music communities, and exciting experiences among many indigenous cultural groups. Ghana is also suffused with the most incredible energy.

When you visit the Republic of Ghana, you might come face to face with caracals (wild cats) and cusimanses, bongos (deer) and bushbacks. Learn from and celebrate with such ethnic groups as the Fante, the Ashanti, the Mole-Dagbon or the Ewe. Shop the markets of Kejetia in Kumasi or Makola in Accra. Take time to visit the Wechiau Hippo Sanctuary, the Tafi Atome Monkey Sancuary, or even stop by Paga and feed the crocodiles. Visit the Larabanga Mosque which dates to 1421, the Nzulezu village on stilts, the Colonial lighthouse of Jamestown, or the National Theatre in Accra.



You can stand in the middle of Independence Square, constructed in 1961 by the first President of Ghana, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. It holds the Independence Arc, one of the national monuments of Ghana. Dine on authentic dishes like jollof, tuo zaafi, fufu, banku. kenke, red-red and waakye. Explore incredible adventures from hiking mountains to abseiling, paragliding, kayaking to hiking among beautiful waterfalls. Ghana comes to life at night, whether it's at a hangout at Osu in Accra, or the Bantama night street in Kumasi, or the London Bridge in Cape Coast or the Harbour area in Takoradi. The music, the people and the food will keep you alive for the night. Adventurers and nature lovers can experience the canopy walk at the Kakum national park, or shed a tear at Elmina Castle's "Door of No Return."

Though Ghana is no larger than the state of Oregon, each region of Ghana offers its own beauty, its own cultural practices, its own wildlife, its own vibrancy and touch of hospitality. It became the first country in sub-Sahara Africa to drop colonialism and gain independence. Today it is a striving country of tourism,

industry and growth. Welcome to Ghana.









Acknowledgements

This Inernational Paper Curriculum Guide is developed each year by the Memphis in May International Festival to provide a comprehensive educational review of its annual honored country. It is provided to elementary, middle and high school teachers as a teaching tool, offering activities and lesson plans to help students explore that country's history, culture, geography, politics and lifestyle. It also addresses teaching standards as directed by the Tennessee Department of Education. Memphis in May thanks those who have helped to make this guide a reality, including Shelby County Schools Administration.

Special Thanks

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This Memphis in May International Festival Curriculum Guide, in its entirety, paying tribute to the 2022 honored country of Ghana is available in PDF format for downloading and printing at www.memphisinmay.org.



The mission of Memphis in May International Festival includes a strong commitment to student education. Since its origin in 1977, the festival has developed dozens of comprehensive Curriculum Guides honoring and exploring countries around the globe, and offering practical lesson plans, activities and worksheets addressing many teaching standards. Each year, Memphis in May is proud to distribute thousands of Curriculum Guides to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.

The 2022 Memphis in May International Festival International Paper Curriculum Guide honoring the country of Ghana, and the Memphis in May Education Program are made possible by many generous supporters. They are made available free of charge to students and teachers throughout Shelby County and the greater Memphis area.



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Memphis in May International Festival, working hand-in-hand with Shelby County Schools, is proud to present this International Paper Curriculum Guide and to make it available to all Shelby County and private schools in Memphis.

How to Use This Guide - This guide is divided into four grade units to offer teachers educational tools for students. Each grade unit is designated by one of these icons, which represent Adinkra symbols, used in fabrics, pottery and furniture by people of the Ashanti Kingdom. Sections offer practical applications of teaching standards, including Foreign Language, Math, History, Science, Social Studies, Art, and others. They incorporate various activities, worksheets, puzzles, research assignments and resources. Many can be adapted for other grades.



Introductory Pages - These pages include important information about the 2022 Curriculum Guide and an overview of the Republic of Ghana, with helpful information and activities for all grades, including history, fun facts, famous Ghanaians, and the always popular "Ultimate Quiz."

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Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Unit - We may start off knowing little about Ghana, but will finish this unit knowing all about fascinating places, lots of languages, fun games, the country's Coat of Arms, unique crafts like Kente fabric... and we'll top it all off with a taste of chocolate!

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3rd - 5th Grade Unit - Get ready to spend a week in Ghana with your classmates. For our trip, we'll learn about their money, their markets, their landmarks, and their abundant wildlife. Plus, on our trip we'll be introduced to a Ghanaian hero and learn a bit about posubans.

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6th - 8th Grade Unit - We have something for almost every teaching standard! This unit will teach us about Ghana's trade and economy, we'll read and write a Ghanaian folktale, survey a map, learn about and involve ourselves in Ghanaian art, learn some sports history, and more.

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9th - 12th Grade Unit - This unit compares Ghana and the United States, particularly the similarities and differences of government, weather & geography, people, today's current affairs, and music. We'll also face the toughest topic of this guide... the dark history of slavery.

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Information Pages - Important information about the 2022 Memphis in May Education Program, including contests and opportunities for students, details of the festival's salute to the country of Ghana, book and website resources, and answers to this guide's puzzles and activities.

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Standards

Peace

INCLUDES CORRESPONDING ACADEMIC STANDARDS ... To assist

teachers, activities in this guide are labeled with Academic Standards numbers developed by the Tennessee Department of Education. Teachers should still check guidelines at https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards.html to assure each corresponds with their curriculum.

Social Studies 6-8 SSP.01 6-8 SSP.06 Visual Arts 6-8.VA. Cr2. C 6-8. VA. P3. A



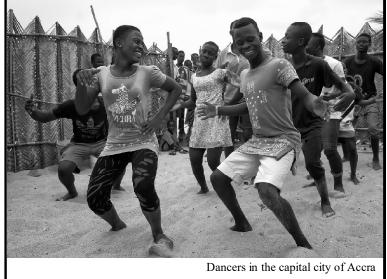


An Overview of Ghana

The modern day country of Ghana, which means "Warrior King," is not a centuries-old country, like many of the African continent. However, its impact on the entire African continent is vast. It exists in an area that was once the former Gold Coast, so named due to the existence of gold which was used by royalty of the West African region. Independence Day for this country, still decades away from its centennial, is March 6. Ghana gained its sovereignty in 1957, led by nationalist and Pan-African leader Kwame Nkrumah, who proclaimed

at the eve of independence on the "Polo Grounds, "Our independence is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of the African continent." His leadership and the example established by the independence of Ghana led more than 30 other African countries to declare independence within the next decade.

Shortly after independence the government propelled an industrialization drive which led to significant economic growth in the 1960s and early 1970s. Ghana experienced a spate of instability with its governance under various military rules which invariably led to an economic downturn in the 1970s. By the 1990s, Ghana's state of affairs was stabilizing which led to



successful economic recovery, stability and political reform for much of Africa. The capital city of Accra developed into a prosperous trading hub which serves as the nation's commercial and educational center today. Kumasi, the "Garden City of West Africa," is the second largest city of Ghana, and is the seat of the King of the Asante people.

Much like the U.S., Ghana is a democracy, though some refer to it as a constitutional democracy, a parliamentary democracy, or a presidential republic. The 1992 constitution provides for multiple political parties, with a president as the head of state for the country, and a vice president. The president is elected by the people for a four-year term, with a limitation to serve for two terms. Ghana used to be divided into 10 regions, including Western, Central, Greater Accra, Eastern, Volta, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Northern, Upper West, and Upper East. Recently, five new regions named Bono East, Savannah, Oti, Western North, and north East Regions have been created. Each region is divided into districts and each has its own local government. The judicial system is based chiefly on the English model, but Ghanaian customary law is recognized. The administration of justice is handled by various courts divided into two groups: the superior courts, consisting of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeal, and the High Court; and lower courts, consisting of the circuit courts, the district courts, and others, like juvenile courts. Justice can also to some extent be administered by traditional rulers (chiefs).

Ghana has one of the best educational systems in West Africa, which consists of six years of primary education, beginning at age six, three years of secondary and three years of senior secondary education (much like high school in the U.S.). University education in Ghana is available at such public institutions as the University of Ghana, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, the University of Cape Coast, the University for Development Studies at Tamale, and others. Accra is also home to the National Film and Television Institute. There are also technical and vocational institutions across the country.

The southern border of Ghana consists of a coastline along the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean. Its neighboring country to the west is Côte d'Ivoire, to the east is Togo, and to the north and northwest is Burkina

An Overview of Ghana (continued)

Faso. Unlike the U.S. that has four seasons, Ghana has two seasons, the wet (April to October) and the dry (November to March). The north east trade winds from the Sahara desert influences the dry season while the South West Monsoon winds from the Atlantic also influence the wet season. They help form different ecological zones where vegetation is primarily determined by precipitation. The coastal savannah in the southeastern plain around Accra consists of scrub and tall grasses, as well as Africa's distinctive baobob tree which is resistant to both drought and wildfire. The forest zone occupies much of the southern third of the country, receiving more than 45 inches of annual rainfall, yielding tropical semi-deciduous forests to the north and more evergreen forests to the southwest. Trees of varying heights form a closed canopy. A third zone of dense rainforests once covered over 30,000 square miles, however farming and timber exploitation have reduced it to less than 8,000 square miles. The northern savannah zone covers the top region of the country and has two primary seasons, a dry season with hot days, cool nights and clear skies, and a wet season which produce terrains of lower trees and grasslands.

Just as weather and precipitation dictate plant life, that vegetation helps to dictate wildlife. Ghana presents a menagerie of wild animals. And while human settlement and hunting reduced the populations of many species, the government and people have helped preserve many endangered species through commitments to animal conservation and national preserves like Mole National Park and Kakum National Park. Mammals include elephants, lions, leopards, buffalo, wild hogs, various antelope, chimpanzees and many types of monkeys. Reptiles include pythons, cobras, puff adders and green mambas. Ghana's lakes, lagoons and rivers, including the Volta River and the huge, man-made Lake Volta are populated by crocodiles, otters, hippopotamuses and endangered manatees. Off the southern coast into the Atlantic, marine life can be as small as the sardine or as large as the humpback whale.

While the U.S. became a melting pot of people from around the globe, Ghana became a melting pot of many diverse and culturally rich ethnic people. Practically all of the present peoples are believed to have migrated into the borders of modern-day Ghana within the last 700 to 1,000 years. With them they brought their diverse languages, with over 75 distinct languages spoken throughout the country. Of the languages indigenous to Ghana, Akan is most widely spoken. Of these, English, which was inherited during Ghana's colonial era, is the official language. Ghana is home to populations of the Akan people (which includes the Anyi, Asante [Ashanti], Baule, Fante, and Guang), Mole-Dagbani, Ewe, Ga-Adangme, Gurma and many others. Despite the diversity, Ghana has not experienced ethnic dissensions since independence.

This diversity also fuels Ghana's economy. The coastal zone is a region of fishermen, where one can see hundreds of brightly painted fishing boats, called pirogues, tied along the shores. Agriculture is extensive throughout the country. One of the most lucrative crops is cacao, used to make chocolate, which represents about one-third of the nation's exports. In some areas, agriculture is based on crop rotation where land is farmed for two or three years before being abandoned for several years to allow nutrients to regenerate. Major crops include cereals like rice and millet, yams and other vegetables, and the introduction of irrigation in the 1960s and mechanized cultivation in the 1980s greatly increased production. Many farmers also raise livestock. Other major exports include timber and minerals. Although Ghana has a wide range of minerals, only a few, like gold, diamonds, manganese, and bauxite, are major exports. Gold mining, with an unbroken history dating from the 15th century, is the oldest of these extraction industries. In 1970 oil was discovered offshore and in 2002 the discovery of oil reserves off the coast brought great potential for exploitation. Agriculture, forestry, and fishing employ more than half of Ghana's population, and provide the bulk of national income. Ghana's principal exports of cocoa, gold, and sawn wood are primarily destined to Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

In the late 1960s only about one-third of Ghana's population lived in major cities, however migration from rural areas into urban areas resulted in about half of Ghana's population residing in urban centers by the





An Overview of Ghana (continued)

turn of the century. The capital territory of Accra-Tema grew to a population of more than a million people. Other major economic and educational centers include Kumasi and Tamale.

In the mid-1900s Ghana recorded over 100 different cultural groups. Throughout Ghana, cultural heritage is closely linked with various religions and the institution of tribal chieftaincy, often manifested in community festivals occasioned by such events as harvest, marriage, birth and death. While the bonds of the extended family play an important factor in the social norms of Ghanaians, they are much less pronounced among urban populations within Ghana's major cities. Cultural differences between the urban and rural populations can also be seen in preferences of attire and cuisine. City dwellers appear more Westernized, whereas indigenous attire, often incorporating kente cloth and jewelry, is seen in rural regions. Ghana is also one of a few countries in Africa which still possesses a rich indigenous cuisine. Fufu is one of the staple foods often made with local crops like cassava, yams, cocoyams and plantain which are boiled, pounded and rolled into balls and served with soups like groundnuts, palmnuts or light soup. These soups are prepared with fish, meat and vegetables. Other indigenous dishes include kenke (fermented cornmeal wrapped in corn husks or plantain leaves).

Traditional drumming and dancing such as adowa, kete, borborbor, kpanlongo, gonji, asafo, fontonfrom drummings form an integral part of the Ghanaian culture and have a unique way of communicating messages during important occasions. While the University of Ghana's Institute of African Studies offers a systematic study of indigenous dance, drumming and performing arts in the perpetuation of Ghana's traditional drama, drums and musical heritage, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology College of Arts' Department of Painting and Sculpture trains visual artists on skills including pottery, wood carving, plastic art, gold and silverwork, and textiles. Many contemporary visual artists have combined traditional artistic styles into progressive gallery pieces unique to Ghana. Artists include El Anatsui, Paa Joe, Vincent Kofi, Adjo Kisser, and many others (see page 55). Specialized craft villages continue to engage in traditional ceremonies, and to create traditional handicrafts passed through generations. Famous craft villages include Bonwire (Ashanti Region), known for kente cloth, Ntonso (Ashanti Region) for Adinkra cloth, Krofrom (Ashanti Region) for brass figures, and Ahwiaa (Ashanti Region) and Aburi (Eastern Region) for traditional wood carving. Among indigenous communities, a stool serves as a traditional and revered symbol of the office for tribal chiefs and traditional leaders in southern Ghana, and an animal skin is the equivalent symbol in the north. Small specialized groups of craftsmen provide these tools and skins to the chief. Literary authors like Francis Selormey, Ama Ata Aidoo, Ayi Kwei Armah, and others have produced a number of literary and dramatic works written mostly in English. Ghana also attracted world attention in the field of film production. Notable among them are "Love Brewed in African Pot" and "Heritage Africa" by Kwaw Ansah.

After independence in 1957, President Kwame Nkrumah encouraged the development of a national sports identity to unify citizens and generate recognition for the emerging country. Political support in the 1960s led to giant strides in the athletic development of track and field and boxing. Ghanaians have also performed well internationally in cricket, basketball, and volleyball. However, the country's passion is soccer, and the men's national team, the Black Stars, has won several African Cup of Nations championships in 1963, 1968, 1978 and 1982. Women's football gained in popularity after the national team, the Black Queens, placed in the 1998 African Championships and competed in the 1999 Women's World Cup. The junior men's national teams, the pride of Ghanaian football, have won many international titles. Ghana's first Olympic participation was in the 1952 Summer Games in Helsinki. In 1960, Ghanaian boxer Clement "Ike" Quartley became the first black African to win an Olympic medal. Other notable boxers are David Kotei (popularly known as D.K. Poison, who was the first Ghanaian professional boxer to win a world crown in 1975) and Azumah Nelson.

Activity - Questions related to this overview for students to research can be found on page 43.



The History of Ghana



Many countries around the globe are often plagued by corrupt dictators, failing governments, and the persecution of citizens who are often deprived of any democratic participation in their country's future. Refreshingly, the Republic of Ghana is a great success story!

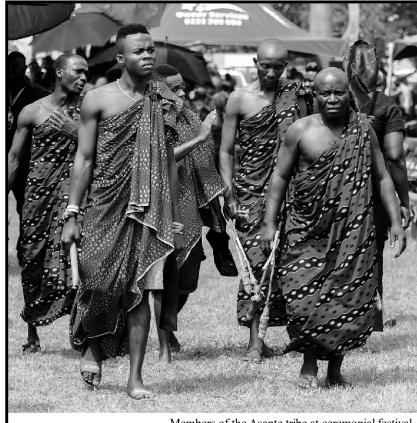
Prehistoric West Africa & The Ghana Empire

During the Pleistocene Epoch which began about two million years ago, the area of West Africa saw much precipitation creating thick forests spreading north. Uncovered artifacts and primitive tools prove that early humans retreated

toward the Sahara. As climates became arid, various cultures repopulated the region, moving along the Togo mountain range from the Niger River. These included the Acheulean, Sangoan and later the Lupemban people.

Populations in West Africa during the Middle Stone Age of the Mesolithic Period utilized more advanced tools and their belongings included stone hoes and quartz beads. Pottery still remained absent until the Neolithic cultures of the New Stone Age emerged. Around Kintampo and in the Accra plains, evidence includes clay houses, polished axes made of greenstone, chart monoliths, coarse pottery and shale arm rings. Iron was still absent until European imports began after the 17th century.

Ghana was still not a country. In fact, Ghana is relatively young as a country. Instead, Ghana, prior to its official name, was the first of the great medieval trading



Members of the Asante tribe at ceremonial festival

empires of western Africa which emerged in the 4th century and then dominated between the 7th and 11th centuries. This trading empire was further north in a large region which today encompasses much of Mauritania and Mali, between the Sahara and the Sénégal and Niger rivers. It was populated by clans of people who served as intermediaries between salt traders to the north and gold and ivory traders to the south. It was called Wagadu by its kings, although it gained its more familiar name from the king's title of reverence, ghâna, which meant "Warrior King." Chiefs or various clans throughout the region, ruled much of the empire. The king charged taxes on traders and on the production of gold, the empire's most valuable commodity, which drew traders from Spain and Portugal. Though the capital moved, the primary capital of Kumbi was about 200 miles north of the current city of Bamako in Mali. The empire's gold was secured at the southern limits of the empire, then brought to the capital where it was traded for other commodities, like salt. The Ghana Empire's power began its decline in the 11th century as Muslim tribes began a holy war, seizing the capital of Kumbi in 1076. In 1240, the city was destroyed by the emperor, Sundiata. What remained of the Ghana Empire became part of his empire of Mali.

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State of Ghana & Islamic Trade Routes

Some evidence points toward a southern migration of the citizens of the Ghana Empire, some 500 miles into the area of modern Ghana. Archaeological research suggests that, prior to coming under British rule, people migrated from either the north or northwest or the east or northeast. These traditions also provide evidence to suggest that the area that is now Ghana served, for many centuries, as a meeting place for two major trans-Saharan routes, one northward towards Morocco and eastward toward Tunisia. Through these trade routes, inhabitants of what is now Ghana were influenced by the wealth and traditions of western Sudan empires and north African Islamic civilizations.

Ghanaian states began to be formed. About the 13th century, Akan-speaking migrants from the direction of Mande inhabited the forest and coastlands. From the 15th to the 19th centuries, the Akan people dominated gold mining and trading in the region. From the 17th century on, they were among the most powerful groups in Africa. Later, 15th century invaders from the Hausa region established the dominant norther states of Dagomba and Mamprusi. Travelers along a southern route from Nigeria founded the southeast states of Ga and Ewe in the early 17th century.

European Contact and Trade

In 1471 Portuguese trade mariners arrived along the Ghanaian coast. This direct sea trade established with Europe became a milestone in Ghana's history. The region earned its "Gold Coast" name from the readily available commodity which enticed European traders to Ghana, offering textiles, hardware, beads, metal items, weapons, ammunition and other important items. Portugal even leased land from Ghanaian states to build stone fortresses in order to protect its trade monopoly in the region. The first of these, Elmina Castle, built in 1482, still stands today and is the oldest European building in existence south of the Sahara, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. However, these trade sites, portals of European commodity trading began to take a very dark turn in the 17th century.

Traders from the Netherlands, England, Denmark, Sweden and Prussia saw that the commercial routes established with the Gold Coast could be easily adapted for the export of human slaves, meeting an increasing demand from American plantations. The Dutch seized Elmina Castle from the Portuguese in 1637, following a failed attempt in 1596, then took over the entire Portuguese Gold Coast in 1642. Elmina held up to 1,000 male and 500 female slaves, shackled and crammed in the castle's dungeons, with no space to lie down and very little light. Many captives fell seriously ill, without water or sanitation, spending up to three months in captivity under horrible conditions before being sold like produce and shipped to the New World. Conversely, the governor's and officers' offices were spacious and airy, with beautiful parquet floors and scenic views of the Atlantic Ocean. Officers, traders and their families went about their normal day-to-day life completely detached from the unfathomable human suffering they were inflicting. By the mid-18th century the Gulf of Guinea was dotted by about 40 forts controlled by Dutch, British and Danish merchants. The Dutch continued the slave route until 1814, when they abolished the slave trade, pursuant to the Anglo-Dutch Slave Trade Treaty. The English and the Danes also outlawed their slave trade, but not

(continued next page) Timeline of Ghana's History Elmina trading Osei Bonsu British Gold Coast British send Asante attack Portuguese fortress ascends slavery ban proclaimed Accra Asante King on British fort arrive along built by the Asante goes into **British** becomes Prempeh I led by woman, Ghanaian Portuguese throne effect colony capital into exile Yaa Asantewaa coast 1471 1081 1900 1800 1081 1896 1535 1877



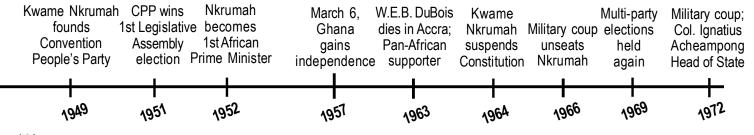
before about one million slaves were transported from the Gold Coast between 1600 and the mid-19th century.

During these centuries, close contact with the Europeans initiated economic, social and political changes. The wealthiest states located north of the Ghanaian forest declined in the face of trade along the southern coast. By the 18th century, the Akan state of Akwamu created an empire that, stretching from the central Gold Coast eastward to Dahomey, sought to control the trade roads to the Gold Coast. The Akwamu empire was short-lived, but its example soon stimulated a union of the Asante states of the central forest, under the leadership of their founding king, Osei Tutu (*Asantehene* was the title for king). The Asante union, after establishing its dominance over other neighboring Akan states, expanded north of the forest to conquer Bono, Banda, Gonja, and Dagomba. After controlling the trade market, they turned toward the coastlands, sending Asante armies led by Asantehene Osei Bonsu to invade coastal states controlled by the Fante Confederacy. The political uncertainty and European suspicions following the Asante invasions hindered the development of new trades meant to replace the outlawed slave trade. However British merchants under the leadership of George Maclean began to assume a protectorate over the Fante states along the coast, and in 1850 bought out the Danes and took over British forts. Later, Fante leaders sought a confederacy independent of British and Asante control, however their 1871 Mankesim constitution was rejected by the British. Britain not wanted even greater control of the region, and sent British military troops which sacked the capital of Kumasi in 1874. The Gold Coast was declared a British colony that same year.

Colonial Period

The British escalated their involvement and protection over the Gold Coast colony from 1896 until about 1901 in order to protect their commercial interests in the region, particularly mining. At this time, the French and the Germans had increased their presence and activity in areas around West Africa. The British military conquered Asante factions, especially in the northern areas which were formed into a British protectorate during this period.

Throughout the 56 years during which the British ruled, European ways of government were assimilated into the Gold Coast. A governorship reined over the Asante people and the Northern Territories. A legislative council was established in 1850 and a supreme court in 1853, however a fully responsible parliament was never established. While gold earned the region its name, during the Colonial period another trade item elevated the region and brought the country together. Historically, Tetteh Quarshie is known to have brought thecocoa seeds from Fernado Po and planted the seeds at Mampong, Akwapim in the Eastern Region of Ghana in 1879. It was not until 1891 when Ghana began the export of cocoa. The official export of two bags was recorded in 1893. Until the early 1980s Ghana was known as the world's largest exporter of cocoa. By the 1920s, the Gold Coast was producing more than half of the world's supply of cocoa, used for chocolate. Gold, as well as timber and magnesium, remained major exports, however with the addition of cocoa, the trade wealth provided the region with modern transport facilities to accommodate the booming export trade. These included new harbors, railways and modern roads, all necessary to move export products. An expanding economy and infrastructure also helped provide citizens with





critical social services, especially university level education opportunities, although political advancement lagged behind economic and social development.

Independence

During World War II, the Gold Coast contributed many men and materials. With a continued lag in the full development of unified political structure throughout the country, there were riots involving workers and war

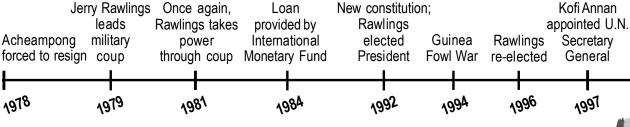
veterans which began to break out in 1948 throughout many of the larger towns. The Watson Commission was established in 1948, under the chairmanship of Aiken Watson, to investigate the disturbances and their underlying causes. The Commission determined that the Burns constitution established two years earlier, giving Africans a majority in the legislative council was flawed. An all-African committee led by Justice Coussey, later Sir James Hensley Coussey, established a new constitution in which some executive power would be transferred to African ministers responsible to an African assembly. Simultaneously, "self-government" was the benchmark of radical politician Kwame Nkrumah and his Convention People's Party. In 1951 the CPP won almost all the elective seats in the post-Coussey legislative assembly, whereupon Gov. Sir Charles Arden-Clarke invited Nkrumah to lead the new administration. A partnership developed between the two, so power was transferred to an all-African cabinet responsible to a popularly elected national assembly.

In 1956 the territory of British Togoland became united with the Gold Coast. During 1954 and



1956 general elections, the CPP government still led by Nkrumah secured 70 percent of the assembly seats. In 1956 they obtained the recognition of their country, renamed Ghana, as an independent self-governing member of the Commonwealth and a member of the United Nations, which Nkrumah saw as an opportunity toward the pursuit of the liberation of all of Africa from colonial rule. The Gold Coast region declared independence from the

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lowing the first

United Kingdom on March 6, 1957 and established the nation of Ghana. On July 1, 1960, following the Ghanaian constitutional referendum and Ghanaian presidential election, Nkrumah, as the first President of Ghana, declared Ghana as a republic. Annually, March 6 is celebrated as the nation's Independence Day and July 1 is celebrated as Republic Day.

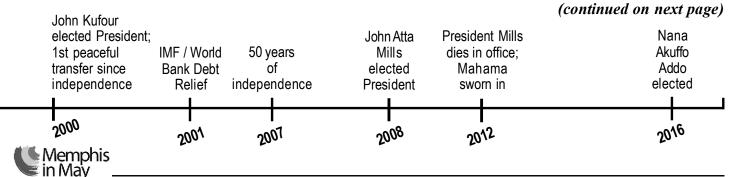
Presidential Roads to Democratic Success

Following independence, Nkrumah assumed greater power for himself, declaring himself as life president of both the Convention People's Party and of the Republic of Ghana. His authority became increasingly challenged by many independent leaders, and his dream of African socialism was mired by increasing corruption, foreign debts, and declining standards of living among Ghana's people. During a 1966 visit to Hanoi, Nkrumah had his powers suddenly taken away when police and army leaders rose against his party and replaced it with the new National Liberation Council under the leadership of Lieutenant General Joseph A. Ankrah. Despite establishing a new government and initiating conservative financial policies, by 1969 the government of Ghana was yielded to a dynamic, young brigadier named Akwasi Amankwaa Afrifa. A new constitution was produced, a parliamentary policy was reintroduced, and general elections were held in August of 1969. Those elections were won by a university professor who had consistently opposed Nkrumah, Kofi Busia, a leader of the Progress Party, who became prime minister. One year later former chief justice Edward Akufo-Addo was chosen as president.

Three years later, following marginal results against foreign debt and lagging world cocoa prices, history repeated itself, when impatient army officers once again rose up against the elected government of Akufo-Addo, which was replaced by the National Redemption Council (NRC) of military men chaired by Colonel Ignatius Kutu Acheampong. The military regime imprisoned political leaders and prohibited public meetings or any other political parties. Just like robbery and damaging public property, political activity and the spreading of rumors could be punished by the death penalty. Ghana's gross domestic product, export earnings and standards of living plummeted.

In 1975 the NRC was reorganized with some civilians sharing in government with the military, although a Supreme Military Council (SMC) maintained ultimate power. In 1977 the SMC proposed a "Union Government to which everybody will belong," with no other political parties, however a national referendum clearly showed the SMC's unpopularity. Acheampong was replaced as SMC chairman by Lieutenant General Frederick W.K. Akuffo, who proved less effective than his predecessor. In 1979 amid a floundering economy, the government of the generals was overthrown by young officers, led by air force flight lieutenant, Jerry Rawlings. Acheampong, Akuffo and others were executed and a parliamentary government was returned under President Hilla Limann. Once again, history repeated itself in 1981 when Rawlings once again overthrew the ineffective government, with his second military coup establishing the Provisional National Defense Council as the national government.

Initially, older Ghanaians were skeptical of Rawlings and the new government. Other young soldiers contemplated their own military coups against Rawlings to secure power. Ultimately, in 1982 and 1983, Rawlings snuffed out two



International Féstival



countercoups and achieved wide, genuine approval of his reformation of Ghana's political and economic life, despite his conservative economic policies. Rawling's government instituted price controls to reduce inflation, privatized many state-owned companies, and devalued currency to stimulate exports, securing International Monetary Fund (IMF) support and other foreign aid. These IMF measures revived Ghana's economy, which by the early 1990s had one of the highest growth rates in Africa.

In early 2001, Rawlings was succeeded by John Agyekyum Kufor, elected president via the New Patriotic Party, in the first peaceful transfer of power between democratically elected governments since Ghana's independence in 1957. Kufuor was re-elected in 2004. During the presidential elections four years later, Kufor's party, the New Patriotic Party won the first round of voting with candidate Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo. Akufo-Addo failed

to secure a voter majority, leading to a runoff. During the runoff, candidate John Evans Atta Mills of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) party defeated Akufo-Addo by less than one percentage point in a tense national election for the presidency. However, the transfer of power remained peaceful, an important point in Ghana's continued democratic stability.

On July 24, 2012, President Mills died in office as he approached the end of his term. In accordance with the constitution of Ghana, Vice President John Dramini Mahama was sworn in as the interim president of Ghana later that same day, and was selected as the NDC candidate for the forthcoming December 2012, presidential election. For that election, he faced seven candidates including former presidential



candidate Akufo-Addo. Despite the loaded field of candidates, the two captured the vast majority of the public vote, with Mahama barely managing to avoid a runoff by gaining 50.7 percent of the vote against Akufo-Addo's 47.74 percent, despite NPP claims of election fraud which were dismissed following a Supreme Court challenge.

Growing national discontent over power shortages throughout Ghana, corruption scandals throughout its judicial system, and a weakening economy plagued Mahama's presidency. To support economic reform, the International Monetary Fund provided the Ghanaian government with a financial assistance package in 2015. Many of these challenges throughout Mahama's presidency remained critical themes during the campaigns for the 2016 presidency, which once again repeated a rematch between Mahama and Akufo-Addo. This time, the field of candidates also included former first lady Nana Konadu Agyeman-Rawlings representing the National Democratic Party. This time, with almost 54 percent of the public vote and after three attempts, Akufo-Addo captured Ghana's presidency, ahead of Mahama's 44 percent. Equally important, Ghana's continued democratic stability also reigned victorious. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo has introduced a policy of "Ghana Beyond Aid" and launched a number of flagship programs such as "Free Senior High School," "One District One Factory," "Planting for Food and Jobs," among others. In December, 2020, incumbant President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo won reelection in a tight race against John Mahama of the NDC party with 51.59 percent of votes cast.

Credits include: "Kumasi, Gold Coast, West Africa, in the late 19th century." From The Countries of the World by Robert Brown, 1876. Special thanks to John D. Fage, Donna J. Maier and the Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica.



A List of Famous Ghanaians

Prepare to meet presidents, singers, actors, athletes, business leaders, and even a United Nations Secretary General. Have your students choose one of these famous Ghanaians and prepare a research paper.

Politics & Patriots

Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo - President of Ghana, re-elected on December 7, 2020 with 51.59 percent of the votes against John Mahama, who he also defeated in 2016 when, for the first time in a Ghanaian presidential election that an opposition candidate won with an outright majority in the first round. He first ran for president in 2008 and again in 2012, both times as the candidate of the New Patriotic Party (NPP). He was chosen as the presidential candidate of the NPP for a third time for the 2016 general elections.

Kofi Atta Annan - Diplomat from Ghana, and the first to emerge from the ranks of United Nations (UN) staff to serve as the Secretary-General of the UN. He served as the seventh UN Secretary-General from 1997 to 2006. The UN and Annan were jointly awarded the The Nobel Peace Prize in 2001 "for their work for a better organized and more peaceful world". While he was the Secretary-General, he prioritized the establishment of a comprehensive reforms program aimed at revitalizing the UN. Annan dies in 2018.

Yaa Asantewaa - Female military leader born around 1840. She was the queen mother of the Ejisu in the Ashanti Empire, which is now part of modern-day Ghana. She was appointed as Captain of the Ashanti army by her brother, Nana Akwasi Afrane Opese, the Edwesuhene, or ruler, of Edwesu. In 1900, she led the Ashanti war known as the War of the Golden Stool against British colonialism.

John Agyekum Kufuor - Ghanaian politician who served as the President of Ghana from 2001 to 2009. Chairperson of the African Union from 2007 to 2008. His electoral victory in 2000 over John Atta Mills at the end of Jerry Rawlings' second term marked the first peaceful democratic transition of power in Ghana since independence in 1957. After two terms, he was no longer eligible for the presidency.

John Dramani Mahama – Ghanaian politician who served as President of Ghana from 2012 to 2017. He served as Vice President before becoming President following the death of his predecessor, John Atta Mills. He was a Member of Parliament from 1997 to 2009 and Minister of Communications from 1998 to 2001. He is a member of the National Democratic Congress.

John Evans Fiifi Atta Mills – President of Ghana from 2009 until his death in 2012. A politician, lawyer, legal scholar, tax expert and sports administrator inaugurated on January 7, 2009, having defeated the ruling party candidate Nana Akufo-Addo. Vice-president under President Jerry Rawlings. Unsuccessful in the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections as a National Democratic Congress candidate.

Kwame Nkrumah - Ghanaian politician, revolutionary, and the first Prime Minister and President of Ghana, having led the Gold Coast to independence from Britain in 1957. An influential advocate of pan-Africanism, Nkrumah was a founding member of the Organisation of African Unity, winner of the Lenin Peace Prize in 1962, and founder of the Convention People's Party. After pursuing higher education and developing his political philosophy abroad, he returned to the Gold Coast to begin his political career as an advocate of national independence.

Samia Yaba Christina Nkrumah - A Ghanaian politician born in 1960, and chairperson of the Convention People's Party. In the 2008 parliamentary election, she won the Jomoro constituency seat at her first attempt. She is the daughter of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah. She became the first woman to ever lead a major political party in Ghana.

Sir Emmanuel Charles Quist - Barrister, educator and judge who served as the first Speaker of the Gold Coast Legislative Assembly and Ghana's first Speaker of the Parliament. He was also known as Paa Quist, and was born in Christiansborg, Accra in 1880. He was the son of the Rev. Carl Quist, a Basel Mission minister from Osu, Accra, and Paulina Richter, his Ga-Danish mother. He was knighted in 1952.

A List of Famous Ghanaians (continued)

Jerry John Rawlings - Military leader and politician who ruled Ghana from 1981 to 2001 and briefly in 1979. He led a military junta until 1992 and then served two terms as the democratically elected President. After handing power over to a civilian government, he took back control in 1981. In 1992 Rawlings founded the National Democratic Congress, and became the first President of the Fourth Republic. He was re-elected in 1996 for four more years, the constitutional limit. Rawlings died on Nov. 14, 2020, just three weeks before national elections.

Otumfo Osei Tutu II - The 16th Asantehene, the absolute monarch of the Kingdom of Ashanti, coronated on April 26, 1999. He is also the Chancellor of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.

Business

Kwabena Frimpong-Boateng - Ghanaian cardiothoracic surgeon, born in 1949, who established the National Cardiothoracic Center and the Ghana Red Cross Society. He's also President of the Ghana Heart Foundation and was the CEO of the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra. He was elected a Fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2002.

Dr. Esther Ocloo - Ghanaian entrepreneur and pioneer of microlending, a program of making small loans in order to stimulate businesses. Born in Ghana in 1919, she was co-founder of Women's World Banking in 1976, with Michaela Walsh and Ela Bhatt. Received the 1990 African Prize for Leadership and many other honors for her work on behalf of economic empowerment of women and families.

Arts & Entertainment

Ephrim Amu - Ghanaian composer, musicologist and teacher who was born in 1899. He's particularly known for his commitment to music education, and for playing the atenteben, a traditional Ghanaian bamboo flute. His compositions, "Yen Ara Asase Ni" has become a nationally acclaimed patriotic song.

Nadia Buari - Actress born in Sekondi-Takoradi in 1982. She received two "Best Actress" nominations at the African Movie Academy Awards in 2007 and 2009. Major films included *Mummy's Daughter* and *Beyonce: The President's Daughter*. She starred in more than 20 movies. In 2013, she released her own movie, *The Diary of Imogen Brown*. She moved to Nollywood films in 2008 with her breakthrough film, *Beyonce & Rihanna*.

Amma Darko - African novelist born in Koforidua, Ghana in 1955 and grew up in Accra. She studied in Kumasi and worked for the Science and Technology Center there. In the 1980s, she lived and worked in Germany prior to returning to Accra. Her novels illustrate everyday life in Ghana. Her first novel, "Beyond the Horizon," was originally published in German. Her most recent novels, "Faceless" and "Not without flowers" were published in Ghana.

Phillip Gbeho-A Ghanaian musician, composer and teacher born in 1904. He was best known for his composition of the Ghana National Anthem. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Arts Council of Ghana and was a Director of Music and conductor for the National Symphony Orchastra.

E.T. Mensah - Born in 1919, Emmanuel Tetty Mensah was a Ghanaian musician who was regarded as the "King of Highlife" music. He led the band, "The Tempos" which toured widely throughout West Africa. A trumpeter, saxophonist and vocalist, Mensah was considered to be one of the most influential musicians in Ghana.

Peter Mensah – Born in Chiraa, Ghana in 1959 before moving with parents to England. His best known films include *Tears of the Sun, Avatar, Hidalgo, 300, Dead Space*, and *The Incredible Hulk*, and for his television roles including *Spartacus: Blood and Sand, Star Trek: Enterprise, La Femme Nikita* and others.

Joseph Hanson Kwabena Nketia - Ethnomusicologist and composer, born in 1921. Africa's premier musicologist and "the most published and best known authority on African music

A List of Famous Ghanaians (continued)



and aesthetics in the world," with 200 publications and 80 musical compositions to his credit.

Reggie Rockstone - A Ghanaian rapper known as "The Godfather of Hiplife." He pioneered the Hiplife art form and has played an important role in the development of this uniquely African genre in Ghana's capital of Accra. He raps in Akan Twi and English. Rockstone is the son of fashion designer Ricky "Ricci" Ossei.

Sports

Abadi Ayew - Known professionally as Abadi Pele, a former Ghanaian soccer player who played as an attacking midfielder and captain of the Ghana national team. Regarded as one of the greatest African footballers of all-time.

David Kotey - Professional boxer born in Accra in 1950. He was one of many boxers spawned by Bukom, a suburb of Accra populated by the Ga people. He was a world featherweight champion from 1975 to 1976 and the first Ghanaian professional boxer to win a world title. He was popularly called "D.K. Poison."

Samuel Kuffour (OseiKuffour) - A former professional football player known for his physical power and defender skills. He gained fame while he played for Bayern Munich, his team for over a decade, playing in almost 250 matches and winning 14 honors. Samuel also played for the Ghanaian national team in the 2006 FIFA world cup.

Leo Myles-Mills - Professional Ghanaian athlete in the 100 and 200 meter races. Born in 1973, he was the first Ghanaian runner to finish the 100-meter race in under 10 seconds, clocking in at 9.98 seconds, his own personal best. He won gold and bronze medals at the All-African games in 1999 and 2003, and also represented Ghana at the Summer Olympics and the Commonwealth Games.

Azumah Nelson - Born in 1958, he earned the title as the "professor" of boxing after winning an Olympic bronze medal for Ghana in 1978. During his career, he won and held the welterweight and super welterweight belt for a number of years. He also holds a place in the International Boxing Hall of Fame.

Theodosia Okoh - A stateswoman, artist and educator born in 1922, best known for designing Ghana's national flag in 1957. She also played a lead role in the development of hockey in Ghana as the first female chairman of the Ghana Hockey Association. Also served as the President of the Ghana Hockey Federation for more than 20 years.

Margaret Simpson - Ghanaian track star born in 1981. She specialized in the Heptathlon. Simpson won gold medals for Ghana in the 2002, 2004 and 2010 African Championships, and a bronze medal in the 2005 world championship. She also won gold in the 2003, 2007 and 2011 All-African Games.

Samuel Takyi - Ghana boxer who medaled at the 2021 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, bring Ghana its first Olympic medal in 29 years.

Aziz Zakari - Ghanaian track and field athlete born in 1976. Zakari is a skilled sprinter and represented Ghana in the 2000 Olympics where he had qualified for the 100-meter finals. An injury sustained 35 meters into the race kept him from finishing. Winner of the 100, 200 and 4x100 meter race at the 2000 African championship.

Education

Ama Ata Aidoo - Ghanaian author, poet, playwright and academic, born in 1942. She served as the Minister of Education under President Jerry Rawlings' administration. In 2000, she established the Mbaasem Foundation to promote and support the work of African women writers.

Anton Wilhelm Amo - Philosopher born in 1703 in a region now known as Ghana. Taken to Germany by the Dutch West India Company in 1707 as a child, given as a gift to the Dukes of August Wilhelm and Ludwig Rudolf von Wolfenbüttel, and treated as a member of the family of the Duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbüttel. The first African known to attend a European university. Served as a university professor in Germany.

The Ultimate Ghanaian Quiz

What began as the first of the great medieval trading empires of West Africa has emerged as a land of history, ecotourism, music & dance, cuisine, heritage, beautiful coastlines, business, wildlife adventures, and more. Ghana has emerged as one of Africa's premier destinations with a solid democratic government and so much to experience. However, before you begin, test your Ghanaian smarts with this quiz. After exploring Ghana, revisit this "Ultimate Ghanaian Quiz" and see if your score improves. Answers can be found on page 68.

1. Let's start easy! What is the capital of Ghana?
2. Which Ghanaian served as Secretary-General of the United Nations?
3. What grassy ecological zone makes up most of the top half of Ghana?
4. What is the actual Soninke translation of the country's name, Ghana?
5. Who was the first President of Ghana, who helped lead the country to independence?
6. Name Ghana's three bordering neighbors.
7. What is the most popular sport in Ghana?
8. Ghana is famous for folktales about the trickster Anansi. What is Anansi?
9. At 2,900 feet, what mountain serves as the highest point in Ghana?
10. On what day of the year do Ghanaians celebrate their Independence Day?
11. What is the largest artificial reservoir in the world by size?
12. What construction project created the largest artificial reservoir in the world by size?
13. What is the easternmost Ghanaian city?
14. The famous kente fabric of Ghana was named for the Akan word "kenten." What does it mean?
15. What major Ghanaian city serves as the seat of the King of the Asante people?
16. Does most of Ghana's population live in cities or in rural areas?
17. The heat and pressure fermentation process of cocoa seeds yields what 3 final products?
18. It is hump day in Ghana (Wednesday), what is the word at the top of your calendar?
19. What is the largest tribe in Ghana, numbering about 7 million people?
20. What export represents Ghana's oldest extraction (mining) industry?
21. The first Presidential opposition candidate to win with an outright majority in a first round election.
22. What is the Ghanaian equivalent of the U.S. penny?
23. The Eternal Flame of African Liberation burns in Independence Square, known by what other name?
24. What are you most likely to find swimming in Chief's Pond in Bolgatanga (Paga)?
25. What are you most likely to find swimming in Wechiau Sanctuary on the Black Volta River?
26. What were the fortified warehouses built by the Asafo warriors during the Colonial period?



People, Places, Politics of Ghana

9-12

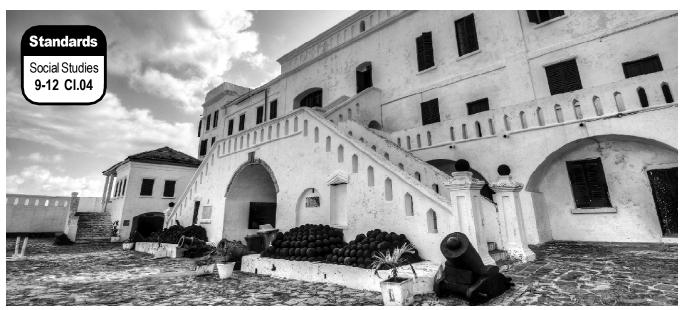
9th - 12th Grade Learning Unit

In this senior high unit, many assignments and activities will be comparing various aspects of the Republic of Ghana with those in the United States. Some people might consider Africa to be one of the continents which is most different from North America (Antarctica is certainly another). Through exploration, we often discover those differences. However, we also often discover many unexpected similarities. Before going more indepth through this study unit, have students explore certain unique similarities between the country of Ghana and different aspects of the United States, so that they have a better initial understanding of Ghana.

Activity

Have each student complete the following activity prior to your exploration of Ghana. Compare answers in a classroom discussion.

- 1. Find an American state which most closely compares to the country of Ghana in relation to land area.
- 2. Find an American state whose climate, terrain, and ecological zones.
- 3. Following the construction of a dam on Ghana's Volta River, Lake Volta was created, the largest lake ever made by people. Find the largest man-made lake in the U.S. and compare it in size to Lake Volta.
- 4. There are three long rivers in northern Ghana. They are the Black Volta, the White Volta, and the Oti. In southern Ghana, the main rivers are the Tano, the Ankobra, the Pra, the Birim and the Densu. Determine the length of each river. Which is the longest? Determine the full length of the Mississippi River in the U.S., and determine which of these Ghanaian rivers, when connected together, come closest to the length of the Mississippi River.
- 5. The two largest cities in Ghana are Kumasi and Accra, the nation's capital. Determine the population of each city, and identify a U.S. city which comes closest to the population of each city.
- 6. Determine the distance in miles (as the crow flies) between the capital city of Accra to the south and Bawku, Ghana's northernmost city. Then find an American city that is as close to that same distance from Memphis.





Cape Coast Castle, the "grand emporium" of the British slave trade



Of Presidents and Politics

Every four years, the people of Ghana elect their country's head of state, President. Their president is elected by the people for a four-year term. The public also elect members of the Parliament of Ghana, which has 275 members, to four-year terms in single-seat constituencies. The presidential election is won by having more than 50% of valid votes cast, while the parliamentary elections are won by a simple majority. The current voting system has largely evolved Ghanaian politics into a two-party system, making it extremely difficult for any candidate to achieve electoral success under any banner other than those two dominant political parties. Elections have been held every four years since 1992. The next presidential election will be held in 2024.

Notice any similarities between the Republic of Ghana and the United States? Students may also notice some similarities between Ghana and its former "Mother country" of England (such as having a Parliament, rather than a Congress). The U.S. president is elected by the people for four-year terms. The United States politics are also led by two primary parties. The next election for the President of the United States will also be held in 2024.

Activity

58 -

Divide your class into two groups. Assign students in one group to undertake a research project and written paper or classroom presentation based on the similarities and differences between presidential elections in Ghana as compared to U.S. presidential elections. Have students in the second group undertake a similar assignment, comparing the similarities and difference between elections of members of the Parliament of Ghana and the U.S. Congress.

If you wish, divide the classroom into groups of 4, and have half of the groups research the presidential similarities and difference, and the other half researching the election of each country's legislature. Have each group research and prepare a classroom presentation clearly demonstrating their comparisons.

For Consideration:

When appropriate to their project, have students or groups consider these points during their preparation, in addition to other considerations revealed through their research.

Compare presidential and legislative terms in years. Can a candidate serve consecutive terms, and are there term limits? If a candidate serves as President or legislator, can they leave the office and then, some year's later, run for another term?

Communicate each step of the process for and individual to run for president or legislature of either country. Are there age restrictions? Are there any restrictions which forbid an individual to run for president or legislature?

How old must you be to vote? What is the process to become eligible to vote in a national election? Are there any restrictions which would prevent a citizen, of age, from voting?

Compare political parties. We've already established that each country is largely controlled by a two-party system, but analyze the past century in regards to political party dominance. Have there been any major successes for other parties. Explore and explain the major platform for each major party and where they stand on major issues. Compare previous candidates and victors, especially in regard to areas of the country represented, race, gender.

In early 2019, Ghana's National Democratic Congress chose former president John Mahama from among seven different candidates to represent the NDC party in the 2020 presidential race. This set up a third consecutive political face-off between Mahama and President Nana Akufo-Addo. Could any other candidate have been part of that presidential election? How far in advance do we know U.S. presidential candidates and political party nominees? What were the results of Ghana's 2020 Presidential election?

Of Presidents and Politics (continued)

999 9-12

Compare campaign rules and restrictions. Are their spending limits? Can candidates from either country accept individual or corporate campaign contributions? Are their presidential or legislative public debates? Do television networks in each country provide air time for campaign speeches?

We know that the President of the United States, during their term, resides in the White House in Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Commander in Chief also travels in a presidential airplane known as Air Force One. While campaigning, the future President also chooses their Vice Presidential candidate. How do these situations compare to the presidency in Ghana?

Can presidents or members of each country's legislature be removed from office? If so, explain the steps. If so, who replaces the president or legislative leader removed? Have any U.S. presidents or Ghanaian presidents been removed from office? If so, how?

Describe any unique aspects of Ghanaian or American national elections which are vastly different from the other.

Ghanaian President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo and German Chancellor Angela Merkel in 2017



The shape of the Flagstaff House, also known as the Golden Jubilee House was inspired by the Golden Stool of the Ashanti people, which honors the divine nature of the king. It serves as the presidential palace and serves as the office of the president.

Standards

Social Studies 9-12 CI.04

English L.A. 9-12.W.RBPK.7 9-12.W.TTP.1 9-12.SL.PKI.4



Flagstaff House, Ghana's Presidential Residence

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Ghana's Diverse Ecological Zones

While every country has its ecological zones, some countries' zones vary greatly based on size of country, terrain, and weather conditions based on location, such as long coastal regions. Ecological zones help to determine architectural styles and residences, clothing styles and the types of crops to farm. Ecology is influenced by various characteristics like weather patterns, climate, rainfall and more. Some larger countries have weather patterns which change as one moves further north, while other countries have climate zones which vary based on quick changes in altitude (conditions at the base of a tall mountain compared to conditions at the mountain peak). In Ghana, agriculture contributes to 28% of the annual gross domestic product and contributes to a large percentage of Ghana's employment... so weather plays a major role in the nation's economy.

Activity

Ghana, despite only being about the size of the state of Oregon, boasts five different ecological zones, named depending on their rainfall, soils, and the general crops that are found in the region. Below we identify and briefly explore Ghana's five distinct ecological zones. Teachers can choose to divide their classroom into groups and have them complete this activity as a group project or assign each student a different ecological zone. Teachers may also choose to provide each student or group with the brief definitions provided below to get them started, or simply assign ecological zones and have them conduct all research.

Have students or groups prepare a written paper or a visual classroom presentation to fully describe their ecological zone of Ghana. While conducting their research and presenting their findings, have students consider these different factors:

- a) Explain your Ghanaian ecological zone in regard to weather and climate, including rainfall averages, high and low temperature ranges throughout the year, and other weather systems which might exist (tornadoes, hurricanes, drought, wildfires, tsunamis, etc.)
- b) List prevalent agricultural crops within your ecological zone. Explain characteristics of these crops and why they are prone to thrive in this ecological zone. Determine whether each of these crops are among Ghana's leading exports and, if so, to what other areas of the planet.
- c) List other prevalent, non-agricultural flora which exists in abundance within your ecological zone, and explain why these thrive within this region. Include trees, shrubs, ground cover, wildflowers, etc.
- d) List prominent wildlife found in this ecological region. Include whether each is exclusive to this region within Ghana, or also inhabit other ecological regions of Ghana. Why do each of these animals thrive in your ecological zone, and what food and vegetation is available in this zone to feed this species. What dangers, if any, exist that threaten the sustainability of these species.
- e) What geographical features might influence the weather and climate of this ecological zone (i.e. mountains, coastlines, valleys, rivers, etc.).
- f) In what ways, if any, do the weather and climate conditions within your ecological zone affect decisions regarding clothing and architectural styles?

Ghana's Ecological Zones

60 .

Generally the northern part of Ghana is characterized by less rainfall than the southern regions. The north is mainly comprised of the Guinea Savannah and Sudan Savannah. The south is comprised of the high rain forest and coastal Savannah. The coastal area is influenced by the wind blowing in from the ocean. Ghana's ecological zones include:

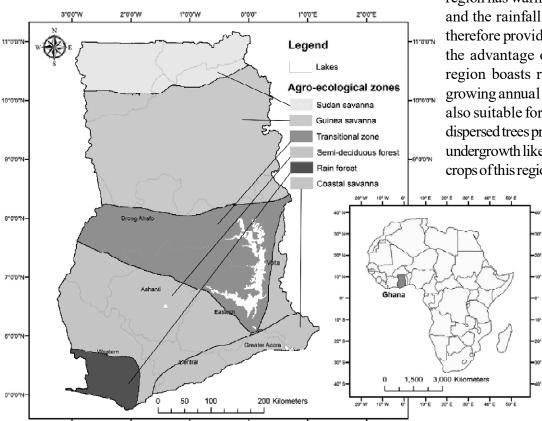
1. High Rainforests - Serving as the habitat for about 40% of all of Ghana's animal species, the rainforests play a great role in sustaining the flora and fauna. The rainforests are home to most of the healing medicinal plants used by both people and animals. They also help with oxygen turnover, taking the excess carbon IV



ntinued)

oxide from the air and releasing oxygen. In most cases a rainforest has little undergrowth because the thick canopies of the trees hinder the penetration of sunlight to the forest floor. In Ghana, rainforests produce high quality hardwoods that are very important in the production of textiles.

2. Sudan Savannah - The Savannah is the tropical grassland located in the northeastern area of Ghana. The



region has warm temperatures year round, and the rainfall is mostly seasonal which therefore provides the people in this region the advantage of herding livestock. The region boasts rich soil, a good base for growing annual food crops like corn, and is also suitable for livestock. This region has dispersed trees providing enough sunlight for undergrowth like grass and shrubs. The main crops of this region are corn, millet, sorghum

and cow-peas.

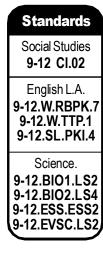
3. Deciduous Forest - This region of diciduous forest hosts warm, moist summers and cool winters, with trees that shed their leaves during particular seasons of the year. This ecological zone, which is located in the southern third of the country, just above the

coastal areas (which also includes large cities), receives about 1,500 mm of rainfall. The deciduous forest region also has fertile soils that favor the growth of food crops, like arrowroot and plantains, as well as forests for lumber.

- **4. Transition Zone** This is the zone that separates the forest and the Savannah. It is called a transition zone because it shares its climate with the Savannah, while receiving about 1,200 mm of rainfall, which is comparable to both the forest and the savannah. This climate supports food crops like maize, roots and plantain. The transition zone covers about 28% of the land area of Ghana. The climate patterns provide farmers with adequate time to prepare their land for crops and to seed, prior to the arrival of necessary rainfall.
- 5. Guinea Savannah & Coastal Savannah These two savannah areas present similar ecological zones, even though they are located in vastly different areas of the country. The Guinea Savannah is a large area land located just north of the center of Ghana, and below the Sudan Savannah. The Guinea Savannah is the most dominant climate in Ghana, which allows for the country's longest annual growing period of about 180-200 days. Much further south, the Coastal Savannah enjoys warm temperatures all year round, and less rainfall than the Guinea Memphis Savannah. This ecological zone is also home to the nation's capital of Accra.

in May

International Festival





The Dark History of Slavery

Activity - This is a difficult lesson plan, but one based in truth and history. Begin this lesson with a classroom discussion among your students about Africa. Ask them to list words that they associate with Africa and its people, and write these on the board. You may get "proud," "family," "farmers," "ceremony." You may also get "poverty," "illness," "struggle." The American society has not come very far in understanding the African culture much further than archaic, stereotypical images of tribes, wild animals and images from movies or charitable documentaries.

Upon visiting Ghana today, visitors would experience a blend of modernization and traces of the past. Thriving cities such as Accra and Kumasi contain office buildings, buzzing enterprises, and "computer bars" where Internet access is readily available at nominal fees. Suburban-type communities and rural areas dot the landscape. To see "wild animals" is to visit a city zoo. To see life in old traditional form is to attend a funeral or a special ceremony or festival held during specific times of the year. Ghana's history and stance today differs significantly from yesteryear.

Long ago, however, Ghana was once one of the largest empires in West Africa. Geographically the country included what is today referred to as western Mali and southeastern Mauritania. During the fifth century A.D., Ghana emerged as a thriving nation and an established center of the iron industry. Skilled workers produced tools and weapons sold in Ghanaian markets. Metalwork was not limited to iron. The country was also rich in gold, found along mountain ranges in its coastal region. Ghana became renowned for this precious metal, its handcrafts, the forging of iron for tools and weapons, along with magnificent utilitarian pieces crafted from gold, silver, and copper. From approximately 300 A.D. through the mid-1000s, Ghana served as a great



trading center. Arab caravans traveled on camels from North Africa across the Sahara to exchange salt, dried fruits, and copper for Ghanaian gold, ivory, leather goods, and jewelry. Although rich in these resources, Ghana was predominantly an agrarian nation. Its people harvested cocoa, plantains, cassava, yams, millet, corn, and peanuts. Fishing and forestry were also an integral part of the culture, finding their way into the Ghanaian marketplace.

Ghana's people embraced social institutions that ensured a meaningful life. The Ghanaian, family was (and continues to be) extended. Strong familial bonds provided a sense of community, cultural values, religious structure, and pride. Ghana embraced a traditional system of political authority that consisted of chieftaincy, kings, and ethnic groups. The chief (Asantehene or Yana) came from a matrilineal line and each was in charge of designated territories. Religious, socio-economic and political structures laid a major foundation for the strength of the empire.

Slavery - Around 1471, Portuguese explorers landed on Ghana's southernmost border. They named it "the Gold Coast" because the area was abundant in the precious metal. At first, simple trade took place. Between the 1400s through 1700s, news of the wealth of the land had spread extensively, and competition set in.

(continued on next page)





slave merchants' bedchambers, met an unpardonable fate.

Commerce increased and soon included not only the trade of gold, ivory, mahogany, salt, and other natural resources, but also the sale of humans. The Portuguese, Dutch, British, and Spanish contributed to the downfall of the once-thriving culture. More than 8,000,000 Ghanaians were forcibly shipped from Cape Coast castle alone! This slave trade was the largest population movement in world history, displacing millions of people from Africa over a period of 300 years. Numbers rose from around 2,000 a year to perhaps 10,000, with up to two out of three being men and boys aged between 8 and 20. The majority of Gold Coast slaves were deported to the Caribbean, where they worked for the rest of their lives on British, Dutch, French or Spanish sugar plantations. Until the middle of the eighteenth century, there were relatively few slaves in the North American colonies. But by 1750, Charleston and other ports were starting to buy African slaves from Caribbean traders. By the end of the eighteenth century, the USA was importing slaves directly, to work the cotton and tobacco fields supplying European factories. Many of the victims spoke different languages such as Ga, Twi, Ewe, and when herded onto slave vessels, were unable to communicate with one another. Asantehenes, queen mothers, priests, other members of the royal family, architects, metalworkers, farmers, weavers, families, children (born and unborn) were all stripped from their homeland. Beaten and shackled, they were indiscriminately placed in holding pens until the slave schooners were ready to set sail. The women, strategically placed in a special area beneath the senior

It is estimated that for every 100 slaves who survived the crossing, 50 to 100 died, perishing during capture, while on the overland trek to the coast, while awaiting shipment in the dungeons, or at sea. The impact of removing so many of the fittest and most able young people (perhaps averaging ten percent each year from affected communities) was devastating, akin to a pandemic with every family suffering direct consequences as husbands, brothers and sons, as well as wives, sisters and daughters, were captured. Led through the castle gates, the people wailed recognizing that they would never see their homeland again. Theirs' was an exit through what Ghanaians today still refer to as "The Door of No Return."

Activities

- 1. Visit http://archive.pov.org/tracesofthetrade/touring-the-cape-coast-of-ghana/ to view a portion of the PBS documentary "Traces of the Trade" by filmmaker Katrina Browne whose family included descendants of Ghanaian slave traders. Allow students to discuss the 5 minute clip, and consider such questions as (a) "Should the descendants of those who benefited from slavery help to repair its injustices and inequality?", (b) "If ten percent of the population was removed from Memphis each year, what specific ways would it affect the city and its families?", (c) "What
- specific human traits might lead someone from trading iron and produce to trading people?", and (d) "Do you believe that we, as a U.S. population, value human life more today than in the eighteenth century, or not (give specific examples)?" Additional perspective about this trip, read "Inheriting the Trade," the powerful memoir of the journey by author Tom DeWolf.
- 2. Along the coast of Ghana, 37 slave-trading forts and castles still stand today. Should you visit the southern coastal region of Ghana you can see (a) Elmina Fort, (b) Cape Coast Fort, (c) Fort William, (d) St. George's Castle (Elmina Castle), (e) James Fort, (f) Fort Christiansborg (Osu Castle), (g) Ussher Fort, (h) Fort St. Jago, (i) Fort Good Hope at Senya Beraku, (j) British Fort at Dixcove, (k) Fort St. Anthony at Axim, and others. Have each student choose one of these forts or castles and prepare a research paper or classroom presentation. They should research its history, original country of ownership, use today, and its role in the Ghanaian slave trade.

Standards Social Studies 9.AAH.01 9.AAH.02 9.AAH.03 9.AAH.04 9-12.AH.49 English L.A. 9-12.SL.CC.1 9-12.W.RBPK.7 9-12.W.TTP.1 9-12.SL.PKI.4



Thanks to "Middle Passage: A Journey of Endurance," by Waltrina Kirkland-Mullins, Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute.

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The Many Ethnic Groups of Ghana

A 1960 census recorded approximately 100 cultural groups within the small country of Ghana, making Ghana very different than most countries. These many indigenous sectors are usually classified into larger major groups. Therefore, while a person is first designated as a Ghanaian, they may also be designated into one of the major groups, and further classified as a member of one of as many as 100 smaller ethnic groups. These divisions were mostly driven by competition between people, primarily their drive to acquire land for cultivation, to control trade routes, and to form alliances for protection. As well as competitiveness, people are often divided because of their language. For example, the Ewe, are divided into the Nkonya, Tafi, Logba, Sontrokofi, Lolobi, and Likpe, simply because of language. Most of these groups identified in the 1960 census exist, and generally exist very peacefully as Ghanaians.

For nearly 150 years, Ghana was the center of Britain's slave trade in Africa. Because they were in the middle of the whole exchange, many of the ethnic groups were completely swept into the slave trade. Currently, Ghana has also made efforts to encourage descendants of enslaved Africans to learn more about their history, to help determine which tribes were traded and whether they returned to Africa or not.

Activity - Below we are briefly introduced to eight of the larger indigenous groups of Ghana:

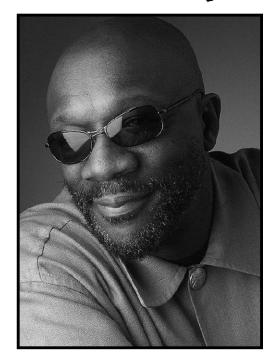
- 1. The Akans The Akans comprising Ashanti, Akyems, Anyi and Fantis among others. This is the largest ethnic group in the country, comprising 47.5% of the entire population of Ghana. The Akans are also one of the few matrilineal societies in Africa, which traces ancestral kinship through the mother's lineage. Once known for the splendor and wealth of their rulers, the Akan people are now famous for their skillful artwork and their trademark kente cloth. Akan artisans are known for creating masks, sculptures and furniture. The Akan are also known for their extravagant funerals.
- **2. The Mole-Dagbon** They are the second largest indigenous group in Ghana, with about one in every seven persons belonging to the Mole-Dagbon. The are divided into smaller sub-groups, with most of them living mainly in the northern parts of Ghana, including the area around Boltaganga. Thanks to their skillful art in basket weaving and African crafts, the markets dominated by this group have begun to gain international attention.
- **3. The Ewe** Also found in parts of Togo and Benin, the Ewe comprise 13.9% of the population of Ghana and speak their own unique Ewe language. They are closely associated with other groups like the Aja and Fon of Togo. They have developed a complex culture that revolves, in large part, around drumming. Music and dance play an integral part of the Ewe culture. In times of need and celebration, the Ewe people turn to their religion which involves over 600 different deities.
- **4. The Ga-Adangbe** These people are found mainly across the Accra plains. The modern Ga-Adangbe people live in Osu, Krobo, Shai and La among other regions. Though often regarded as one ethnic grouping, they include the Ga people from Osu La, Teshie, etc. and the Adangbe people from Krobo, Shai, etc. The Ga-Adangbe compromises 7.4% of the population. Dancing and drumming also play an important role in their culture.
- **5. The Guan** These people are believed to have migrated to present-day Ghana around 1000 A.D. from the Mossi region of Burkina Faso. After moving to the Volta valley, they formed a settlement in Afraim Plains, across the Black Volta and in the Akwapim Hills from where they moved further south to occupy the coastal plains. According to scholars, it is believed that the Guan were the Neolithic population of the region.
- **6. The Dagomba** This is also one of the cultural groups that makes up the face of Ghana. Numbering over a half million people, the Dagomba mainly inhabit the northern region of the country and sparsely



9-12

Isaac Hayes, Musician & Tribal Chief

So Memphis music is famous for the "King of Rock 'n' Roll," Elvis Presley... but what about "The Chief of Ghana"? That's right, Stax recording artist and Academy Award winning musician, Isaac Hayes, became a Ghanaian chief. Haye's unbreakable bond with Africa and Ghana, in particular, started in 1991 when he visited the West African nation together with legendary African-American musician Barry White to shoot a video for their hit song "Dark and Lovely (you over there)". Hayes returned the following year to tour the Elmina and Cape Coast Castles together with musician, actress and media personality Dionne Warwick. This visit became very emotional for him. In addition to connecting with and learning about his roots, he also found love. Hayes met his wife, Adjowa with whom he had a son, Nana Kwodjo Hayes. Hayes' philanthropic work in Ghana continued until his death in 2008. Together with Princess Asie Ocansey of Ada, they set up the Nene Katey Ocansey I Learning and Technology (NekoTech) Center of Excellence in Ada. In 1993, he helped bring the World Literacy Crusade, a non-profit literacy organization to Ghana. Another applaudable project of his was his HIV/AIDS campaign, the "Save A Million Lives HIV/AIDS Project." Working with Princess Ocansey



and US movie star Steven Seagal, he helped to mobilize over 21 U.S. universities with medical schools to work alongside USA doctors to help the rural poor of Ghana fight HIV/AIDS in a five-year project at NekoTech. For his remarkable humanitarian work, he was crowned Nkosuoehne (Chief for Development) of the Ada Traditional Area in Ghana in 1992. The royal name bestowed on him was Nene Katey Ocansey I.

populated around the Savannah region. They are closely related to the Mossi people of present day Burkina Faso. They primarily live in the Tamale region, which also doubles as the capital of the northern region.

- **7. The Kuasi People** There are about 400,000 Kuasis spread across the Bawku districts in the northern part of the country. More recently, there have been tensions between the Kuasi and other ethnic groups because of the control of Bawku. This has led to some sour relationships between the Kuasis and their neighbors.
- **8. The Hausa** The Hausa are by far the single largest ethnic group in West Africa, with the majority living in parts of Togo, Chad, Ivory Coast, Cameroon and Nigeria among other countries. The Hausa speak the Hausa language, which is an Afro-Asiatic language.

For this activity, assign or have each student choose one of the eight ethnic groups of Africa listed on these pages. Remember, there are over 90 other sub-groups of which they can identify, choose and research. Each student should thoroughly research their group online or at the library and write a paper. Their research should look for history, population size, growth or decline, language, leadership hierarchy, positions in national government, customs, and cultural traditions. You may also allow students to research and develop a classroom presentation which can be shared in class. These can include videos, art installations, PowerPoint presentations, etc.

Standards

Social Studies 9-12.AH.49 9-12.CI.04 9.AAH.02

English L.A. 9-12.W.RBPK.7 9-12.W.TTP.2 9-12.SL.PKI.4





Headlines of The Ghanaian Times

Memphis is a city of history. That history includes music, the Chickasaw Indians, the Civil War, the civil rights movement, Holiday Inns, Piggly Wiggly supermarkets, and much more, with hundreds of books written about Memphis history. However, if we want to know what is happening in Memphis today, right now, we turn to the Internet, and we turn to today's headlines. The Ghanaian Times is a government-owned daily newspaper published in Accra, Ghana, the capital. The newspaper was established in 1957, has a circulation of 80,000 copies, and is published six times per week. Of course it covers news, politics, business, education, sports and more. Additionally, AllAfrica.com is a comprehensive website with today's top headlines sorted by country.

Activity

Have each student visit the website for The Ghanaian Times newspaper (ghanaiantimes.com.gh) or AllAfrica.com (allafrica.gon/ghana/) and search for Today's Headlines. Have each student choose one headline, thoroughly read the story, research some background information regarding their story (if it took place in Anloga, then where can this city be found in Ghana and what are some of its unique characteristics?), and report to the class about the story.

Teachers may choose to assign each student a specific topic, such as politics, education, entertainment, sports, industry, economy, trade, etc. and ask the student to find a news story which relates to their topic (like "Former

World Boxing Organization Bantamweight Champion Isaac Dogboe Heads to Arizona for Rematch" or "Accra Technical University Begins Drone Technology Program").

Teachers may also choose to begin each day of a week-long study of Ghana by presenting a headline and story pulled from that day's issue of The Ghanaian Times. Have students discuss the article and how it might compare with issues facing Memphis today, or how it is different. Post headlines and stories on a classroom bulletin board each day focusing on top news stories from Ghana, encouraging students to read them and helping them with world affairs.

Standards
Social Studies
9-12.CI.04

English L.A.
9-12.W.RBPK.7
9-12.SL.PKI.4
9-12.SL.PKI.5



Highlife, Hiplife & The Music of Ghana

Highlife is a musical genre that originated in Ghana in the early 1900s when Ghana was a British colony. It used melodies and beats of Ghana's traditional Akan music, but played with Western instruments like horns and guitars. In the 1920s, Ghanaian musicians incorporated foreign influences like the foxtrot and calypso with Ghanaian rhythms like Osibisa. It was associated with the colonial aristocracy and was played by bands including the Jazz Kings, Cape Coast Sugar Babies, and the Accra Orchestra. In the 1940s, larger orchestras began to be replaced by smaller bands, typified by the success of E.T. Mensah and the Tempos, whose fame soared after playing with Louis Armstrong in Accra in May 1956. Contemporary singers like K.K. Fosu, Ofori Amponsah and Richie sing in the Twi language but with a rhythm based on American R&B. Their music has been

Then as early as 1973, instead of highlife, Ghana began to gain international music acclaim incorporating hip hop, which led to hiplife. In 1973, Gyedu Blay Ambolley released his first record, "Simigwado," a semi-rap in Fante-

style highlife. Ambolley would go on to be hailed as Ghana's father of rap. Ghanaians became influenced by American hip hop. Hiplife is a Ghanaian musical style which dates back to the early 1990s fusing Ghanaian culture and hip hop. Recorded predominantly in the Akan language, hiplife continues to gain popularity throughout West Africa and abroad, especially in the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany and the U.S., as evidenced by 2007's Ghana@50 concert in The Bronx, N.Y., which scheduled Reggie Rockstone, who many have credited as the "Godfather of Hiplife."

Jeff Tennyson Quaye, better known as Jay Q, one of the pioneers of hiplife is considered the backbone of Ghana music. In the 1990s the group Native Funk Lords came out with pidgin rap. A new era was born in late 1998 when a producer known as Hammer

of The Last Two emerged with original beats, fusing hip-hop with local tempos. In 2009 Ghanaian filmmaker Mantse Aryeequaye released a documentary entitled "Rhythm Rising" that focused on the political history of the hiplife movement and the culture of hiplife against the backdrop of Ghana's politics. Apair of hiplife artists, Reggie 'n' Bollie, came in second on the UK TV music show "X-Factor." There is also Twi Rap. An obscure Ghanaian song titled, "Obaa Sima" by Ata Kak was recorded in 1994 but wasn't popular until Brian Shimkovitz, a NY ethnomusicologist uncovered the tape. The tape soon had over 40 million downloads without Ata Kak's notice until Brian met him six years later.

Activity - Have students research and listen to songs by some of Ghana's musicians listed to the right. Play them in class and

allow students to discuss similarities and differences to Memphis and contemporary American music.

called contemporary highlife.

Standards English L.A. 9-12.W.RBPK.7 9-12.SL.CC.1

Contemporary Ghanaian rapper, Imrana Latif

Popular Contemporary Ghanaian Musicians & Producers

Gyedu Blay Ambolley Appietus Asem

Ball J Barima Sidney

Eddy Blay Buk Bak

Castro Cil

Ayigbe Edem Ghanaba

Jay Ghartey

Hammer of The Last Two Jay Q

Jay Q Jayso

K.K. Kabobo Ata Kak

Kwaw Kesse

Lord Kenya

Okyeame Kwame Imrana Latif

MzBel

Native Funk Lords Obour

Oboui Obrafour Osibisa

Richie

Reggie Rockstone

Samini Sarkodie

Sarkodie Tic Tac

Tinnieguaya

Vision in Progress Koo Wiase





Ghana Puzzle & Quiz Solutions

Here are the answers we promised! Included below are the answers to most of the puzzles and quizzes included throughout this Curriculum Guide, providing your students with a wealth of information about the honored country of Ghana.

Ultimate Colombian Quiz, page 16 1. Accra

- 2. Kofi Atta Annan
- 3. Savannah
- 4. "Warrior King"
- 5. Kwame Nkrumah
- 6. Cote D-Ivoire, Burkina Faso,
- 7. Soccer (Football)
- 8. A spider
- 9. Mount Afadjato
- 10. March 6
- 11. Lake Volta
- 12. Akosombo Dam
- 13. Denu
- 14. Basket
- 15. Kumasi
- 16. Since 2000, in cities
- 17. Cocoa liquor, cocoa butter
 - & dry cocoa cake
- 18. Wukuada
- 19. Ashanti (Asante)
- 20. Gold
- 21. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo
- 22. Pesewa
- 23. Black Star Square
- 24. Crocodiles
- 25. Hippopotamuses
- 26. Posubans

Two-Part Word Search Puzzle. page 32

- 1. Parliament 2. Burkina Faso
- 3. Monkey
- 4. Talbotiella Gendtii
- 5. Hiplife
- 6. Matrilineal
- 7. Asantehene
- 8. Asamoah Gyan
- 9. Anansi
- 10. Gulf of Guinea
- 11. Kenke
- 12. Lake Volta
- 13. Issac Hayes
- 14. Republic Day
- 15. Peter Mensah 16. Freedom and Justice
- 17. Memeneda
- 18. Makola
- 19. Cedi
- 20. Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah 22. Oware
- 21. Aardvark
- 22. Wechiau
- 23. Slavery
- 24. Larabanga
- 25. Pirogues

Crossword Puzzle Word Bank, Page 56

Accra	Gawu	Oware
Afadiato	Hiplife	Parliament
Ahabammono	Hippopotamus	Pesewas
Asantehene	Kakum	Posuban
Ashanti	Kejetia	Rainforest
Chocolate	Kente	Spider
Crocodiles	Mmienu	Star
Edwoada	Monkey	Volta

Nkrumah

Crossword Puzzle Answers, Page 56

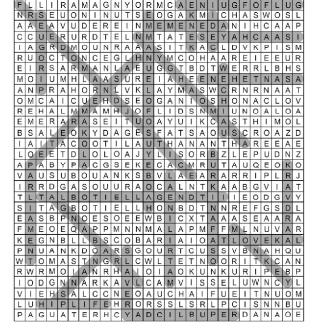
Across

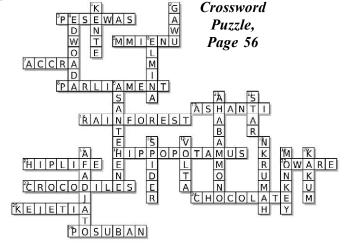
Elmina

- 3. Pesewas 5. Mmienu
- 7. Accra
- 8. Parliament
- 12. Ashanti 13. Rainforest
- 18. Hippopotamus
- 21. Hiplife
- 23. Crocodiles 24. Chocolate
- 25. Kejetia
- 26. Posuban
- Down
- 1. Kente 2. Gawu
- 4. Edwoada 6. Elmina

- 9. Asantehene
- 10. Ahabammono 11. Star
- 14. Spider
- 15. Volta
- 16. Nkrumah 17. Afadiato
- 19. Monkey
- 20. Kakum

Two-Part Word Search Puzzle, Page 33





Resources - A good selection of books and websites to assist you and your students in the study and exploration of Ghana, and to help with puzzles and assignments like those on this page, can be found listed on page 72 of this guide.



Memphis in May Contests & Opportunities

Info

Education Programs

Your exploration of the Republic of Ghana continues past this International Paper Curriculum Guide. Each year, Memphis in May produces many educational and cultural events and contests to showcase its honored country. Throughout the year, Memphis in May offers contests, exhibits, performances and other educational opportunities for teachers and students to learn all about Ghana. Additional information about each, as well as updated details and deadlines, is available at www.memphisinmay.org/education. All programs are subject to change or modification.

Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crates

The incredible country of Ghana is sending a bit of its own culture straight to your classroom! Each year, Memphis in May receives an international shipment from its honored country. The festival loads the goods into four different "World Cargo Crates" designed to be transported to Memphis area schools. Each Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate is loaded with educational items, cultural items, historical items, games, musical instruments, costumes, handicrafts, and more, as well as a description of each item and its significance to Ghanaian culture. Your school can reserve a crate free of charge for a one-week period so that classrooms throughout your school will have the chance to explore the crate. The Memphis in May Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crates are available for reservation for dates between January and May 2022. **To reserve a crate for your school, or for more information, please email education@memphisinmay.org.** One week per school, please. The crate will be delivered to your school before 12 noon Monday morning, and picked up the following Monday by 10:00 a.m., courtesy of Blue Sky Couriers.

Education Contests

This year we are making it easier to sign up for our programs and integrate the Memphis in May Curriculum into your classroom activities. Memphis in May provides easy to use resources to enable teachers to integrate education about the honored country into your classroom. Memphis in May will recognize teachers that utilize these resources during the year as an Official Memphis in May International Classroom. A minimum level of participation is required. Visit http://bit.ly/MIMEducation for details.

Become the Official Memphis in May Classroom Program

Classroom Competition / Grades K - 12

Teachers, you can win \$1,000 just by incorporating the honored country of Ghana into your classroom. Involve students in your classroom or grade level in classroom decorations and activities with a theme based on this exciting country. Fill your classroom (and your students' minds) with images of Ghanaian art, animals, landscapes and culture. For details, visit http://bit.ly/MIMEducation. Entries must be digitally submitted by Friday, May 6, 2022 at 5:00 pm.



Applications, additional details, deadline information, program changes and frequent educational opportunity updates are available online at http://bit.lv/MIMEducation.





Contests & Opportunities (continued)

Sedgwick CMS International Teacher Competition Teacher Competition / Grades K - 12

Now teachers have the chance to win alongside their students! If you're ready to celebrate Memphis in May's honored country in your classroom, this competition is for you. Memphis in May will recognize the teachers with the most outstanding "global classrooms," teachers who utilize international programming to supplement their curriculum and introduce a foreign culture to their

Teachers Can Win

students. Sign up and participate in one or more of Memphis in May's education programs and events, complying with all program guidelines. Participate in as many of the programs and events as possible to increase the international appeal of your classroom. Entries will not be judged solely on the quantity of Memphis in May activities, but rather the main criteria will be the educational impact, creative use of curriculum, and quality of the learning and educational activities in the classroom. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at http://bit.ly/ MIMCompetitions. Entries must be digitally submitted by Friday, May 6, 2022 at 5:00pm.

Creative Writing Contest Grades 4 - 12

The Creative Writing Contest promotes literary creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about the Memphis in May honored country through the written word. Creative Writing Contest entries can include any type of literary work, fiction or non-fiction, including but not limited to poems, essays, short stories, plays, narratives, scripts and biographies. First, second and third place winners will be chosen in three grade categories (Upper Elementary - 4th & 5th grades, Middle - 6th -8th grades, High - 9th - 12th grades). The competition is open to students attending any public, private or home school within the Shelby County area. Each entry must be submitted with a completed Creative Writing



Contest entry form (typed or printed only). Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions (subject to change, check website for any updates). Entries must be received by Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Entries must be digitally submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

International Paper Children's Poster Competition Grades K - 6

The International Paper Children's Poster Competition promotes the creative artistry of students in grades K-6. Patterned after the Memphis in May Fine Art Poster Program, the student's work must depict some aspect of the honored country of Ghana through the medium of drawing and coloring. One student will become the Grand Prize winner, and their work depicting Ghana will then be printed and sold by Memphis in May as the 2022 International Paper Children's Poster. Since there will be a limited number of signed and numbered prints created, this lucky young artist's poster has the potential of becoming a unique collector's item. The Grand Prize winner will sign and number 100 of the prints. First, second and third prize winners will also be recognized in various grade divisions. All artwork must be designed and executed by the student. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions. Entries must be received by Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May International Festival offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.





Graphic Design Competition Grades 7 - 12

This competition promotes the creative artistry of students in grades 7-12. Patterned after Memphis in May's Fine Art Poster Program, the student's work must depict some aspect of the honored country of Ghana through the medium of graphic design. First, second and third prize winners will be recognized in various grade divisions. All artwork must be designed and executed exclusively by the student. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions. Entries must be digitally submitted to Memphis in May by Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Multimedia / PowerPoint Competition Grades 9 - 12

This competition promotes design creativity and allows students to incorporate what they have learned about Ghana through overall presentation, graphic design, and written word. Students have a chance to create unique presentations illustrating the honored country's history, geography, people, music and culture. This competition is a wonderful tool to get students acquainted with Video or PowerPoint, important programs in the business world. As an additional activity, teachers may also opt to have students present in front of the class, giving them valuable practice in communication skills, all while exposing them to international history and culture. This competition is open to all high school students attending public, private, or home school within the Shelby County area. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. Downloadable entry forms are available on the Memphis in May website at http://bit.ly/MIMCompetitions. Entries must be received by **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be submitted to the Memphis in May offices at 56 S. Front Street, Memphis, TN 38103.

Memphis in May Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate Photo Contest

The Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate Photo Contest encourages teachers to use their cameras to capture special moments in their classrooms. The photographic entries portray special "learning moments" between the students, their teachers, and the unique items from the honored country. As most of these items are foreign to the students, their reactions of interest, surprise, and curiosity are clearly visible in the photos. The winning teacher receives a Memphis in May prize package for their classroom and the privilege of being the first to reserve a Delta Dental of TN World Cargo Crate for the upcoming school year. The winning teachers and students also get to see their pictures displayed on the Memphis in May website as "the face" of the World Cargo Crate for the next year. Up to 5 photos may be submitted per entry, along with the teacher's name and title, school name, school address, school phone number, and teacher's email address. Entries must be received by **Friday, May 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.** Entries must be digitally submitted to Memphis in May. For more information, see Memphis in May's website att www.memphisinmay.org or contact education@memphisinmay.org with any questions.

Exhibitions & Field Trip Opportunities

Each year, Memphis in May plans cultural exhibitions and performances involving art, artifacts, speakers and performers from the honored country. In 2022, teachers and students can expect many opportunities to explore the beauty, culture and history of Ghana. Many exhibits and performances offer great opportunities for classroom field trips. As the festival approaches, visit the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org/education for updates on exhibitions, field trips opportunities and additional educational materials. You may also call 525-4611, ext. 108, to be placed on an education email list for notifications throughout the year.



Books, Websites & More

With numerous geographic regions, 100 different indigenous cultural groups, 80 different languages, and one of the most diverse animal environments in the world, with hundreds of thousands of exotic species, it's hard to fit a country like the Republic of Ghana into just 72 pages. Below are many books and websites which can help your students locate additional information for many of the educational assignments in this guide. These resources will also help them explore many more fascinating aspects of Ghana. Teachers may also want to utilize the Internet to reach out to other schools in Ghana to establish communication between their classroom and a similar classroom in that country, especially since English is widely spoken. Your students could even reach out to like-aged students in Ghana via Twitter or Facebook to establish a web-pal program!

Books

Ghana by Philip Briggs, Bradt Guides

Ghana: The Essential Guide to Customs & Culture by Culture Smart

Country Explorers: Ghana by Lyn Larson, Lerner Publications

The Ghana Cookbook by Fran Osseo-Asare and Barbara Baeta

The Ghana Reader: History, Culture, Politics by Kwasi Konadu and Clifford C. Campbell

Once Upon ATime In Ghana: Traditional Ewe Stories Told in English by Anna Cottrell and Agbotadua Togbi Kumassah

The Political History of Ghana (1950-2013): The Experience of a Non-Conformist by Obed Yao Asamoahg

Websites

"Visit Ghana," Ghana Tourism Authority - https://visitghana.com

Government of Ghana - http://ghana.gov.gh

Ghana Department of Tourist Development - http://gtdcgh.com

Lonely Planet - https://www.lonelyplanet.com/ghana

Nations Online - www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/ghana.htm

CIA World Factbook - https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gh.html

GhanaWeb - http://ghanaweb.com

Embassy of Ghana, Washington, D.C. - https://www.ghanaembassydc.org

National Geographic, Ghana for Kids - https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/ghana Activity Village, Ghana - https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/ghana

Need an International Paper Curriculum Guide of Your Own?

We teach students to share, but for your own copy of this Curriculum Guide, visit the Memphis in May website at www.memphisinmay.org. This entire Curriculum Guide about Ghana is available on-line in a downloadable PDF format, so you can print your own Curriculum Guide copy for free!

Questions?

Each year, Memphis in May receives questions from educators about the honored country. This year, teachers might need a little help with the pronunciation of Akan days of the week, or how to know the difference between cacao and cocoa! Each year, Memphis in May strives to identify local citizens who are native to the festival's honored country. These citizens are often available to answer teachers' questions, and sometimes are available for classroom visits. Memphis in May also organizes a speakers bureau which offers presentations to schools and civic organizations. Interest and requests can be made

Join the Memphis in May Education Email List!

Receive additional information and applications as soon as they become available. To join the list, simply email education@memphisinmay.org!

by calling 525-4611 or by emailing Memphis in May at education@memphisinmay.org.



