

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

The African Literary Tradition Notes

Timeline

1. 2500 B.C. _____
2. 1580-1350 B.C. _____
3. 1200 B.C. _____
4. 430 B.C. _____
5. A.D. 200 _____
6. 600 _____
7. 1200 _____
8. Late 1800s _____
9. The Greek historian, _____ called Egypt the “ _____ ”
10. List the “gifts” that the Nile gave to settlers:
 - a. _____
 - b. During flood season, _____ was necessary for crops such as _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____
 - c. _____ was key to Egypt’s thriving trade.
11. Because of the Nile, Egypt was a _____ and one of the most _____ the world has known.
12. Papyrus are _____.
13. Papyrus allowed the Egyptians to develop _____, which was far more convenient than _____.
14. Paper made centralized rule possible because it allowed Egyptians to
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

f. _____

g. In addition _____ and _____ could be shared far and wide and handed down to future generations.

Twenty-Seven Centuries of Civilization

15. Under thirty-one dynasties, or _____, Egyptian civilization flourished for twenty-seven centuries.

16. Three main eras:

a. The Old Kingdom: from _____

i. Built _____

b. The Middle Kingdom: from _____

i. Characterized by _____

c. The New Kingdom: from _____

i. At the _____

ii. Empire reached _____

A Highly Organized Society

17. Egyptian society resembled _____

18. How? Describe the levels”

a. Top level _____

b. 2nd Level _____

c. 3rd Level _____

d. Bottom level _____

19. The pharaoh was a _____ leader and a _____
_____, who represented the earthly incarnation of the god
_____, son of _____.
20. What was the pharaoh's destiny? _____

21. Why were the pyramids built? _____

The Egyptian Pantheon

22. What two things were inseparable to the Egyptians? _____ and

23. The Egyptians the pharaoh was a _____ and service to him was the same as
_____.
24. The Egyptians had many gods. One important group of gods was the _____, the
nine creation gods.
25. List the nine creation gods and their relationship:
- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - f. _____

The Cult of the Dead

26. The Egyptians were fascinated with _____.
27. The "cult of the dead" dictated _____ and _____.
28. Egyptians wrote many works about _____, which also
contained magical spells for

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

29. The New Kingdom produced the book called _____, which can be described as a _____

30. What types of books did the Egyptians write? _____

31. These books were written to _____ or _____

32. Strictly religious texts included _____ and _____

33. The earliest known praise song is “_____”

34. Other popular _____, or forms of literature, included:

a. Instructions - _____

b. Autobiographies _____

c. Entertainment such as “The Tale of the Shipwrecked Sailor” and “_____,” even these were not without _____

d. _____ or _____ - plays used in religious ceremonies.

35. During what time period and why were secular poetry written? _____

36. Much of the poetry was _____, meaning _____

The Rise of Africa’s Great Civilizations

37. During which dynasty and time period did Egypt lose much of its status as a world power? _____

38. What city at the southern end of the Nile was gaining strength and prominence? _____
- a. Define **prominence**: _____
39. What happened between 751 and 664 B.C.? _____
- _____
40. The capital city Meroe produced _____
41. The smaller civilizations thrived on the fertile grasslands by _____ and _____
- _____
42. The _____ of the northern Sudan have their deeds still known by the _____ oral epic, _____
43. Which kingdom rose in the third century? _____, which is in what is now _____
- _____
44. They developed a writing system called _____ that are still used in Ethiopia.
45. Many great civilizations arose. The legendary city of _____ was a center of trade and culture in both the _____ and _____ empires.
46. List 3 of the cultures that sprang up in Africa during this time.
- a. _____, b. _____, and c. _____
47. The period between A.D. 300 and A.D. 1600 marked Africa's long " _____ "
48. During this time _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____ flourished.
49. African oral literature consist of _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____ distilled into the form of _____ and _____.
- a. It also includes _____ and more specific kinds of _____ and _____.
- _____.

b. From this period, came several _____, including the Mali epic

Foreign Influences in Africa

50. During the fourth century A.D. the _____ proclaimed _____ as its state religion and taken control of the entire northern coast of Africa, including _____

51. What is the one of the largest religious groups in Ethiopia? _____

52. Around A.D. 700, _____, the religion of the followers of Mohammed, was introduced to Africa.

53. In the late 1800s, what happened to many African nations? _____

54. In the mid-1900s, a move toward _____.

55. What was literature written in no instead of English, French, or other European languages?

56. The vital literature is clearly stamped with the tradition of African oral literature, or _____

Griots: Africa's Living Libraries

57. _____ are the keepers of _____ in West Africa. Today, a _____ may be a _____, _____, or _____ . In the past, they were skilled at _____ and _____ many forms of African oral literature. Many also memorized their nations' _____ and _____.

58. Elsewhere on the African continent, _____, _____, _____, and _____ also preserved and continued the oral tradition.

59. Literary forms of Africa are many and varied, but share certain features, which allow these works to speak clearly to modern readers and transcends barriers of time and culture:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

African Proverbs

60. _____ are more much more than quaint sayings. They represent _____

61. Proverbs are used to _____, _____, and

62. Proverbs are entertaining because they contain _____, _____, and

_____.

63. A proverbs is _____

64. Define:

a. Metaphor _____

b. Alliteration _____

c. Parallelism _____

d. Rhyme _____