



PLANIT
TEACHERS

Exploring Cultural Diversity: A Comparative Study of the Maya and African Cultures

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Due Date: _____

Introduction to Cultural Diversity

Welcome to this exciting journey of discovery, where we will explore the rich cultural heritage of the Maya civilization and compare it with another ethnic group, the African culture. Through this comparative study, we will gain a deeper understanding of the diversity and complexity of human cultures.

Cultural Diversity: The presence of different cultures in a particular region or society.

Maya Civilization: An ancient Mesoamerican civilization known for its advanced knowledge of astronomy, mathematics, and architecture.

African Culture: A diverse and complex culture with a rich history, encompassing various ethnic groups, languages, and traditions.

1. What does cultural diversity mean to you?
2. Can you think of a time when you experienced a different culture? What did you learn from it?
3. How do you think cultural diversity enriches our lives?

Activity 1: Cultural Research

Research and write a short essay (approx. 250-300 words) comparing the traditional clothing of the Maya and African cultures. Be sure to include the following:

- Materials used
- Designs and patterns
- Cultural significance

1. What are some similarities between the traditional clothing of the Maya and African cultures?
2. How do the geographical locations of the Maya and African cultures influence their food and technology?
3. What are some differences between the music and dance of the Maya and African cultures?

Activity 2: Chart Design

Create a chart comparing the similarities and differences between the Maya and African cultures in terms of:

- Food
- Clothing
- Music
- Dance
- Games
- Technology

Imagine you are a Maya delegate visiting an African community. Write a journal entry (approx. 150-200 words) describing your experiences and observations. Be sure to include:

- What you learned about African culture
- What you shared about Maya culture
- How you felt about the experience

Activity 3: Cultural Reflection

Reflect on what you have learned about the Maya and African cultures. Write a short essay (approx. 250-300 words) answering the following questions:

- What did you learn about cultural diversity?
- How did you feel about the activities and research?
- What would you like to learn more about?

Research and create a short presentation (approx. 5-7 minutes) comparing the traditional technologies of the Maya and African cultures. Be sure to include:

- Tools and materials used
- Innovations and achievements
- Cultural significance

Activity 4: Game Design

Design and create a traditional game from the Maya or African culture. Be sure to include:

- Rules and instructions
- Materials needed
- Cultural significance

Imagine you are planning a cultural festival to showcase the Maya and African cultures. Write a proposal (approx. 250-300 words) including:

- Festival theme and objectives
- Activities and events
- Food and entertainment

Activity 5: Multimedia Presentation

Create a multimedia presentation (e.g., video, podcast, or infographic) showcasing your research findings on the Maya and African cultures. Be sure to include:

- Introduction to the cultures
- Comparison of similarities and differences
- Conclusion and reflection

1. What is the name of the traditional Maya clothing?
2. What is the significance of the African dashiki?
3. What is a traditional Maya game?

Activity 6: Reflection and Evaluation

Reflect on what you have learned about the Maya and African cultures. Evaluate your own cultural awareness and understanding. Write a short essay (approx. 250-300 words) answering the following questions:

- What did you learn about cultural diversity?
- How did you feel about the activities and research?
- What would you like to learn more about?

Congratulations on completing this comparative study of the Maya and African cultures! We hope you have gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diversity and complexity of human cultures.

Assessment Rubric

The assessment rubric is provided to guide the teacher in evaluating student performance and providing feedback.

- Participation and engagement: 20%
- Research and chart design: 30%
- Presentation and reflection: 20%
- Quiz and activities: 30%

Choose any combination:

1. Design and explain a cultural festival
2. Create a traditional craft or art piece
3. Write a short story or poem about a cultural experience

Choose ONE of these topics for detailed research:

1. Green Technology in Maya and African Cultures
2. Cultural Exchange Programs between Maya and African Communities
3. Traditional Medicine in Maya and African Cultures

Reflect on what you have learned throughout this comparative study of the Maya and African cultures. Write a short essay (approx. 250-300 words) answering the following questions:

- What did you learn about cultural diversity?
- How did you feel about the activities and research?
- What would you like to learn more about?