African Masks:
A Visual Insight into Culture

Directions: For this project, you will be using Adobe Illustrator or Photoshop. We will choose the tribes and the masks from the Sorting Hat. After you have chosen your mask, you need to download the template for the mask from the classroom website. Below is a list of websites that are good starting places for your research; however, they should not be the only places that you look for information on your cultures mask-making habits. As a part of your research, you will find various images of masks from your chosen culture; however, do not let the images so much as the information that you find influence you. While your goal is to design a mask that the culture you intend it for would freely accept, it should also reflect you in some way as well. After you have completed your mask, you will need to present it to the class on the day we review for the test. You will be expected to explain your creative choices and prove that your mask reflects its culture. In your discussion of the masks, please include the following information about your tribe: location, population, history of the tribe, economy, political system of government, and religion.

Starting Points of Research:
Baule/Goli
- www.rebirth.co.za/baule_tribal_history.htm
- www.rebirth.co.za/goli/kplekple_mask.htm

Biombo
- www.zyama.com/biombo/index.htm
- www.origomundi.com/tshimoanamask-p-110.html

Bwa
- www.forafricanart.com/Bwa_ep_42-1.html

Dan
- www.forafricanart.com/Dan-People--Ivory-Coast-Liberia_ep_266-1.html
- www.rebirth.co.za/Dan_tribal_art_history_and_culture.htm

Goma
- www.zyama.com/goma/index.htm

Kota
- www.forafricanart.com/Kota_ep_48-1.html

Kwele
- www.rebirth.co.za/kwelemask/history.htm

Ligbi
- www.zyama.com/ligbi/index.htm

Lulua
- www.forafricanart.com/Lulua_ep_56-1.html

Lwalwa
- www.forafricanart.com/Lwalwa_ep_26-1.html

Pende/Panya Ngombe
- www.forafricanart.com/pende_ep_92-1.html

Punu
- www.forafricanart.com/Punu--Gabon_ep_28-1.html
- www.rebirt.co.za/punu_mask_history_tribal.htm

Senufo
- www.africaguide.com/culture/tribes/senufo.htm

Teke
- www.rebirth.co.za/tekemask/history.htm

Woyo
- www.zyama.com/woyo/index.htm

Yohure
- www.zyama.com/yohure/index.htm

Rubric for African Mask Project

Category	Subcategory	Points Possible	Points Earned	Comments
Mask	Use of color – colors also relate to tribal customs	10		
	Authenticity – work shows that student has done sufficient research about the culture in which the mask is found	20		
	Creativity – student shows that he or she immersed and connected to the culture through the appearance of the mask	20		
	Display of Effort- the final product clearly displays that the student has done his or her best	20		
Presentation	Explains relationship to culture; location, population, history of the tribe, economy, political system of government, and religion	20		
	Explains creative decisions made on project	10		
Total:		100		