Art from the National Museum of African Art

Who: Dogon peoples, Niongon style, Mali
When: 15th century (radio carbon test date)
Material: Wood
Height: 108.8 cm (42 3/4 in.)
Collection of Amy and Eliot Lawrence
www.nmafa.si.edu

Figure above and Cup below

Who: Yoruba peoples, Owo, Nigeria
When: Late 17th century
Material: Ivory
Height: 18.2 cm (7 3/16 in.)
www.nmafa.si.edu
Art from the National Museum of African Art

Where: Nuna peoples, Burkina Faso
When: 20th century
Material: Wood, pigment, ritual accumulation
Length: 98.5 cm (38 3/4 in.)
www.nmafa.si.edu

Above and below are Masks

Where: Bwa peoples, Burkina Faso
When: 20th century
Material: Wood, pigment
Height: 201.2 cm (79 1/8 in.)
www.nmafa.si.edu
African Art Station
Art in Western Africa


2. The masks, headdresses, and sculptures all represent political, social, economic and/or religious values (unseen) in different Western African groups. Look at the example below.

The Archer and Equestrian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Ancestors were honored and possibly worshipped. Statues were placed in their sanctuaries.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Political</td>
<td>Military was considered valuable. They had ceremonies in their honor.</td>
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3. Now it is your turn to create charts for the artwork. Use the readings, the art, and the sample chart to describe the unseen values of Western African groups.

4. Challenge! Look at the artwork from the National Museum of African Art. Uh oh, No written description! Examine the more modern artwork of Western Africa and use what you have learned to determine what it represents about unseen culture.