APPLICATION ACTIVITY: African Art Tour

Step 1.
First, go read the introductory website for the African Art Galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. To get there, go to the Metropolitan Museum’s Curatorial Department page: https://www.metmuseum.org/about-the-met/curatorial-departments. What do you notice? Keep in mind where you find it (hint, it is part of the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas). Click on the curatorial department and read about it under “History of the Department” and “What’s on view.”

Step 2.
Imagine that you have been hired to lead a tour of these Galleries 19th and 20th century African art. Your goal is to teach the tour group about the range of artistic forms and media employed in the art of the incredibly diverse African continent.

Step 3.
Choose 5 objects from the galleries to include in your tour. To see the objects in the galleries, you can browse all of the Native American objects: https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search?department=5 (by choosing various filters such as the Arts of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas and/or the geographic location of Africa or even specific countries).

Please include at least 1 object from a country in Western Africa and 1 from Central Africa Coast; the remaining 3 are up to you. Please make sure this is focused on 19th and 20th century art.

Step 4.
Next, create a forum post under “African Art Tour” forum topic. Then enter a descriptive title for your new post, and then type a post of at least 150 words. Your post must:

1. Describe the nature of the group you are leading (Pepperdine students, elementary schoolchildren, tourists from an international country, former convicts, art historians, or whatever other type of group of people you can think of);
2. List your 5 chosen objects and include direct links to the object’s webpage on the museum’s website (get to each object’s individual webpage by clicking on the image of the object);
3. Describe why you think that your particular group would be interested in each of the objects; and
4. Describe how you think that these objects will teach the tour group about the range of artistic forms and media employed in the art 19th and 20th century African art.

Step 5. Please also comment on at least 2 other students’ entries.