

Name: _____

Creating a Mini-Museum Audio Guide

“[History from below allows us to] save events from history that otherwise do not exist in the official record.”

—Professor Omer Bartov

Instructions: With your group, follow the steps below. You will create a script for an audio guide for a museum collection of three objects from the slideshow of precolonial and colonial Namibian objects. Guests to your mini-museum will listen to the guide while viewing the objects.

1. Working digitally with the slides if possible, put different groups of three objects together by reordering them in the slideshow. Notice how different groups of objects can tell different kinds of stories. For instance, you can probably imagine that some groups of objects might explain something about childhood. Others might tell something about food preparation, or the values and beliefs of OvaHerero or Nama people, or the types of tools and materials they worked with, or about relationships with other groups of people. Some groups might talk about a particular historical event or time period.
2. Decide on three objects that appeal to the members of your group. Record why you chose the three objects here.
3. For each object, fill out an “Object Analysis” sheet with your group.
4. What concepts connect your objects to each other? For instance, do all of the objects have to do with trade or family structures or values people hold or a specific event? Can you think of more than one concept that relates to your objects?
5. Your mini-museum is intended for students your age. Thinking about your audience, answer the following questions.
 - a. What history or concept do you want to tell about your objects?
 - b. What is important for students to know about your objects in order to understand that history or concept? On the Object Analysis sheets, place a check mark next to each piece of information you want to include in your guide.

- c. Why is this an important history or concept to understand?
- d. What is the title of your collection?
- e. How would you arrange your objects in a museum display? You can draw a sketch if you like. Why would you arrange the items that way?
- f. Are there gaps in your story, information you do not have? How could you find that information?
- g. Can you think of a different story your collection could tell?
6. With your group, write a script for your audio guide that discusses the points below. Order the contents of your script in a way that you think would make sense for your audience.
- Your title and what it means
 - A description of each object
 - What the objects teach people about history and/or culture
 - Why it is important to know that history
 - Any other details or conclusions your audience would find interesting