

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Study Sheet: Oceania

What are the main types of subject matter in Oceanic art?

- Fertility
- Political or cultural leaders
- The supernatural

What are the two main reasons that there is not much recorded history about Oceanic art?

1. Western colonization caused a steep decline in artistic production.
2. Cultural knowledge and history were passed on orally, and was not recorded in writing.

| Object         | Where or from what culture did this object come? | Give a brief description of the object and its significance:                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Yams           | Abelam                                           | Yams were the center of the agricultural, social, and artistic practices for the Abelam people. They held festivals to honor gods, to ensure a good harvest, and to celebrate the yam.    |
| Malagan masks  | New Ireland                                      | These masks played an important role in guiding the deceased's soul from the realm of the living to the realm of the dead.                                                                |
| Moai           | Easter Island                                    | Large stone statues which mark and watch over the sites of religious ceremonies or burials.                                                                                               |
| Feather cloaks | Hawaii                                           | They were intended to display wealth, power, and status, and to reinforce the existing social order. They were also thought to provide the wearer with spiritual and physical protection. |