# The Kingdom of Benin: Flashcard Challenge

*Learning objective: To recall and understand key facts about the history, culture, and achievements of the Kingdom of Benin.*

Read each question on the front of the card. Try to answer it before looking at the answer provided after the pipe symbol. Ellie the elephant has helped compile these facts from her historical research!

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| **Who was the ruler of the Kingdom of Benin?** | The Oba, who was considered a divine leader and the head of the government. |
| **What material is the Kingdom of Benin most famous for using in its intricate artworks?** | Bronze (though many were actually made of brass). |
| **What was the capital of the kingdom, known for its advanced urban planning?** | Benin City. |
| **What was the name of the language spoken by the people of the Kingdom of Benin?** | Edo. |
| **How did the people of Benin protect their capital city from intruders?** | They built a massive series of earthwork walls and moats known as the Benin Moats. |
| **Which European nation first established trade relations with the Kingdom of Benin in the late 15th century?** | Portugal (the Portuguese). |
| **What were the 'Benin Bronzes' used for in the royal palace?** | They were plaques used to record historical events, royal lineages, and important court ceremonies. |
| **What was a major source of wealth for the Kingdom of Benin?** | Trade, specifically the trading of items like cloth, pepper, and ivory with Europeans and other African kingdoms. |
| **What title was given to the highly skilled artists who created the bronze plaques?** | Guilds of craftsmen (often working specifically for the Oba). |
| **True or False: The Kingdom of Benin was located in modern-day South Africa.** | False. It was located in what is now modern-day Nigeria. |