Teaching Timbuktu: Training for the *Legacy of Timbuktu* Exhibit

**Section 2: Write a Review of the Exhibit**

**Exhibit Questions and Review (1 CEU)**

Note: The exhibit “Legacy of Timbuktu” will be on display at the Cameron Village Public Library in Raleigh, January 23-26, 2010 only. For more information, please contact benjie.hester@wakegov.com

**Instructions for completion (1 CEU):** First, review the Background Material/Introduction and view the exhibit at Cameron Village Public Library. Write a review of the *Legacy of Timbuktu* exhibit, using the questions below as a guide (about 1500-2000 words). Email your responses to b_anderson@unc.edu. When I receive your email, I will send a reply, letting you know that I have opened your email. Be sure to put your name and your school affiliation here! If email is a problem, you can send your materials to me “snail-mail.” If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the information below. I hope you find this a challenging and stimulating exercise! Barbara Anderson

**Your Name:**

**School and School System:**

**Grade(s) and Subject(s) You Teach:**

**Before you visit the exhibit,** think about
- What you know about Timbuktu.
- How important you think literacy was for the ancient cultures of West Africa
- What the manuscripts might look like
- How many manuscripts you might see
- What topics will be covered in the manuscripts
- Whether you will feel a deeper connection with the people of ancient West African cultures as a result of seeing the exhibit

**While you’re walking through the exhibit,** think about
- How you feel about seeing manuscripts that are hundreds of years old
- How you feel about seeing manuscripts that are hundreds of years old and are from Africa, rather than from Europe
The fact that these manuscripts are proof of a high tradition of literacy and scholarship in West Africa
What one of the scribes who wrote these manuscripts would tell you about his culture and his life
How the exhibit is correcting popular misconceptions about West African cultures.

After you've seen the exhibit, think about
What you will tell your friends and colleagues about the exhibit
What you will tell your students about the exhibit
How seeing the exhibit will change your way of thinking about ancient African cultures
How seeing the exhibit will improve your way of teaching about Africa

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