Reading Artefacts

Task

Elderberry

The task is about reading artefacts or real objects. However we will not be using pictures. This is because by using pictures the following aspects may be diluted.

- Detail, exact colouring, smell, taste
- Ambience, sense of location
- Size, scale, weight, mass
- Texture, shape, marks of manufacture, 3-dimensional design
- Sense of history or age
- Clues to the story behind the object

Each learner will find a primary source of a person who is at least 20 years older than the learner and ask for an artefact from that person's youth. If a primary source is not available, the learner may use an artefact from a Museum. In most cases we can almost certainly learn something from reading pictures or photographs or watching a video. However, the following aspects may be lost.

- Detail, Exact colouring
- Smell, taste
- Ambience, sense of location
- Size, scale, weight, mass
- Texture, shape, marks of manufacture, 3-dimensional design
- Sense of history or age
- Clues to the story behind the object

Central Guiding Question: Specifically, what does a person need to know to understand what an artefact is and what was its purpose?

Ask Questions.

Of what kind of materials is this object made?

How was this object made? Who made this object? Why?

Who used this object?

How was this object used?

Does the design of the object suit the purpose and/or use?

Are there any marks, stains, changes, damages, alterations of this object?

What size is the object?

Is the object decorated? How? Why?

Is this an item a person might have one or several? Why?

Are other items made out of the same materials? How?

Is this object used with other items? How?

Is this object made by using other items as part of the process? How?

Is this object used to make other items? How?

Are any items today similar to this object?

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What are the similarities or differences? Why?