

Part Three: The Coast

Chapter 44: The Ocean

Chapter 45: Cape Coast Castle and Tanoso

Chapter 46: Approaching the Castles

Chapter 47: Elmina Castle

Individuals in the order introduced

Canoeists

Asantehene's soldiers

Kobe: Fante boy apprenticed to his uncle
to learn how to be a canoeist

Dutch governor of Elmina Castle

Place names

Abura

Benya River

Cape Coast castle

Cape Coast town

Elmina Castle

Elmina town

Twɔ word introduced

Asafo ...militia

Ethnic groups introduced

Ahanta

British

Dutch

General vocabulary

interpreter

gear

palaver

shelter

surf

trek

Summary of Chapters 44-47

Ebo's mother tells him not to sell the prisoners since Kwame is their clansman. She warns her son that the ancestors will be angry if he continues. Ebo says that he needs to protect his people.

Ebo's group reaches the ocean the next day and he allows the prisoners to explore the beach briefly. Ebo pays canoeists to ferry his group to Cape Coast Castle. On the way they see a ship and learn how the Fante work for the whites to load and unload their ships.

Approaching the castle, the boys see its size and the cannons. Ebo can't find canoeists to take his group to Elmina Castle and decides to walk instead.

When Ebo sees soldiers the group hides or Ebo gives them false information. The group hears a cannon fired to welcome a new ship.

After a night on the beach, the group enters Elmina Castle. Ebo tries to bargain for guns and ammunition with the governor but soldiers join them and learn what has happened. The governor offers to buy the rebels but the soldiers want them imprisoned for treason.

Comprehension questions

1. What does Ebo's mother tell him about the soldiers that have come to the town? How does he respond? Why does he want to talk to his *asafo*?
2. How do Kwame, Baako, and Atore describe the ocean? How do they compare it to the forest?

3. Give an example of the way the Fante handle fishing.
4. How do Kwame and Baako feel as they board a canoe to cross the surf?
5. How does the canoes' owner prepare Kwame and Baako for the crossing? What is the experience like for them? How does Kobe try to help them?
6. Do Kwame and Baako believe that their ancestors know what is happening to them? Do they want their ancestors to follow them? Why?
7. What do Kwame and Baako learn about the way the Fante work with the whites?
8. How is Nana's delegation received when it arrives in Tanoso? What happens to the leopard cub?
9. Describe Cape Coast Castle. What work do Kwame and Baako see going on? What is their impression of the cannons?
10. Why does Ebo decide to walk to Elmina?
11. Why is Baako thinking about escaping from the rebels? What is he thinking of doing?
12. Is there evidence that the Asantehene's soldiers are looking for the rebels? How do the rebels avoid the soldiers?
13. How does Ebo treat his prisoners?
14. How does Ebo respond to soldiers who stop him?
15. Why is a cannon fired? How do Kwame and Baako react?
16. Where does Ebo's group spend the night?
17. Where does the messengers' group spend this night? Will they arrive in Elmina before Ebo's group?
18. As the rebels' group prepares for the final day's walk to Elmina, what advice does Atore give Kwame and Baako?
19. How does Baako try to escape? Why does Atore stop him?
20. Describe the entrance to Elmina Castle. Is it well protected from attack? What do Kwame and Baako see in the courtyard?
21. What is the nationality of the whites at Elmina Castle? Cape Coast Castle?
22. What does Ebo want in exchange for the three prisoners?
23. What story does Ebo tell the castle's governor about the prisoners?
24. When are Kwame and Baako able to tell the story of their capture? Who believes them?
25. Why does the governor of the castle offer to buy the rebels from the soldiers? Why do the soldiers refuse the offer?
26. How do the rebels react when the governor decides to imprison them? What will be the charge against them?