Lesson 5-1 Homework Questions, part 1

Answer the following questions.

1. How did the powerful empires of West Africa affect the daily lives of their people? Who were families most loyal to? (Page 151)
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2. Why was the Niger River important to West Africa? (Page 151)
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3. How are kinship groups and clans different? (Page 151)
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4. How were decisions made in kinship groups? (Page 151)
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5. What were the roles for men, women, and children? (Page 152)
   Men  |  Women  |  Children
   __________________|________________|________________
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Metalworking

Iron technology was so important to West African societies that blacksmiths held a special status in most communities. A blacksmith was both feared and respected, wielding political power over his neighbors. Iron was valuable not only for a material for efficient agricultural tools and weapons, but also as an article of trade. Iron was traded in the form of tools, weapons, and raw iron bars.

5. Why was iron a valuable material in West African society? ________________________
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6. What was the result of iron technology in West Africa? (Page 152)
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