**Viewing Notes for BBC4 Lost Kingdoms of Africa: Great Zimbabwe**

n.b. This documentary takes us chronologically much later in time than our other materials. But I’m assigning it now because of our emphasis on Africa thus far, and the way that it corresponds with the chapter reading for this module.

Key Terms: Early British views of Great Zimbabwe, Swahili Coast, South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, gold, The Periplus of the Erithrean Sea, Rhapta, Felix Charming, 2000 ya pottery shards, Kilwa, great mosque, Portuguese explorers, coral, Ibn Battuta, gold from the Zimbabwe plateau, copper coin from 14C Kilwa in Great Zimbabwe, technical expertise needed to build the monumental coral architecture,

Manyikeni, meaning of the word Manyikeni, relationship between Manyikeni and Kilwa and Great Zimbabwe, “the place where people can give to each other,” gold in the graves, Grass for cattle-grazing, ‘built of stone,’ remembering the ancestors, Mapangubwe (Limpopo province, South Africa, near Pretoria), golden rhino, goldsmithing skill, Mount Mapangubwe, burials of rulers, origins of African kingship, game called Owari or marubai, “Africa’s el Dorado,” Archaeologist Edward Matenga, the “key to the site,” feat of stone engineering, a medieval city with many different sections, remembering an African past,

Questions to keep in mind:

Do you like this episode? Why or why not? How did various outsiders describe these sites throughout history?

What are GCH’s main claims in this episode? What evidence does he use to support his claims? Why would GCH say that his conclusions are significant? How convinced are you by his conclusions?

How does GCH’s discussion built on and/or challenge those descriptions?

What commonalities can you find in this episode with the prior episodes of this series that we’ve watched in this course? What differences can you find?

How does this episode relate to the material and conclusions in Graham Connah’s article?