


Name:

The Crown Jewel

K-W-L Chart

Consider the image on the screen. Make a list of what you see and everything you already know about this object. Then, write 2-3 questions you have about this artefact, its history etc. Leave the last column blank for now – you will come back to it at the end of the lesson.

KNOW	WONDER	LEARNED
		

Article Reading Guide

“The True Story of the Koh-i-Noor Diamond – and Why the British Won’t Give it Back” *Smithsonian Magazine*

As you read the article, respond to the following questions.

1. Explain the origins of the Kohinoor diamond.
2. When does the diamond first appear in written historical records? How was it being used?
3. One of the last Indian rulers to hold the diamond was Maharaja Ranjit Singh. For him, the diamond was a symbol for something greater than wealth. Explain what the diamond represented to Singh.



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- After Singh's death, the diamond was passed down to Duleep Singh, who was only 10 years old at the time. How did the British obtain the diamond? How did they make use of it?

A Closer Look

The following statements are excerpts from the article you have just read. Read the statement and analyze their meaning. To what extent do you agree with the statement? Provide a detailed explanation for your rating.

Statement	Explanation
<p>"... uncovering the line of ownership of a gemstone like the Koh-i-Noor is best practice when it comes to history, it doesn't necessarily lead to a legal obligation... the rulers who once owned these gemstones headed nations that no longer exist."</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree ← 1 2 3 4 5 → Strongly Agree</p>
<p>"Provenance is very complex and people aren't used to processing a chain of ownership. By the time you hit the second or third owner over time, the information can get more difficult to research. This is why I say it's important that these things not be yanked out of museums, because at least people have access and can study them until we know for sure if they were looted."</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree ← 1 2 3 4 5 → Strongly Agree</p>
<p>"... one solution that doesn't require removing the Koh-i-Noor from the UK is to make the history of the diamond clearer. 'What I would dearly love is for there to be a really clear sign by the exhibit. People are taught this was a gift from India to Britain. I would like</p>	<p>Strongly Disagree ← 1 2 3 4 5 → Strongly Agree</p>

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the correct history to be put by the diamond.”

THE CROWN JEWEL: Documentary Analysis

Stuff The British Stole: The problematic history of the Koh-I-Noor diamond

As you watch the documentary, take notes on the chart below. Pay close attention to arguments made regarding the controversy of its possession.

Ethical Judgement

The Diamond Should <i>Remain</i> in Britain	The Diamond Should be <i>Returned</i> to India
Notes from the documentary:	Notes from the documentary:

Use Your Judgement

Based on the information you know now, respond to the following statement by choosing a rating.

The Kohinoor diamond should be returned to the rightful owner in India.

Strongly Agree

1

2

3

4

5

Strongly Disagree



