

Film Title and Release Date: *When China Met Africa* (2010)

Film Length in Minutes: 74 Minutes

Film Genre: Non-Fiction

Reviewer Name/Grade: Sahil G., 8th Grade

Date reviewed: March 28, 2022

The documentary “When China Met Africa” focuses on how China aided Africa. Both countries' world leaders met together in Beijing in 2006. China has been investing billions of dollars in terms of loans in Africa. Many companies and business men look to Africa for natural resources and opportunities. To begin the documentary, information is presented on a slideshow. Further into the documentary, the Chinese businessmen have taken opportunities in Africa. It demonstrates how they overcome the language barrier by working together to translate. The documentary shows many different workers and jobs and how they operate. Many Chinese investors gave hard work and laborious jobs to the Africans for good pay. These jobs included digging holes and excavating into the ground looking for rare materials. Sometimes kids were employed because they needed to provide for their families. Some of the laborers were not trusted to even eat in peace. The Chinese investors always kept an eye on them and the Africans were offended by this. They felt as if they were not respected. The documentary does a good job at giving both sides and perspectives but there are ways they would have improved. They could have shown what the Chinese investors thought about the Africans feeling as if they were not respected.

How did you find the film on Kanopy?

I found this film on Kanopy by scrolling through the documentaries section.

Did the plot or presentation of information keep you interested?

Yes, it showed me how China financially aided Africa with work and opportunities equally.

Was the pace of the film too fast, too slow or just right?

The film is just right for all viewers to follow along.

What grade level is this appropriate for?

This documentary is appropriate for all students from grades 7-12

4 stars: I enjoyed this film and found it worthwhile to watch

I give this film a 4 stars because it gave information to form an opinion on how China and Africa worked cooperatively. This documentary showed many good parts such as overcoming the language barrier between the two. I do not like how they did not show the entire Chinese perspective when it came to the discussion of respect between the two for other situations with the Africans.