



a



c



d



b



e

- a) There are four Tsonga musical bows. This is the *xitende* gourd-bow, used by wandering minstrels to carry news and complaints from village to village. This boy is an apprentice bow-player. The function of the bow is determined by its physical properties: not requiring mouth resonance, it leaves the mouth free to sing and shout news
- b) Every herdboys possesses a bone flute or whistle with which he constantly sounds his personal identity call for the benefit of both the cattle and other herdboys. "Stealing" another boy's call can be punished by death, for it signifies the theft of one's very identity
- c) The boys' formal drumming school uses the double-membraned *xigubu* drums, small and made from discarded cans and pots. Here the tribal rhythms are learned to the singing of non-lexical syllables
- d) Headmen often play the xylophone, which is prestigious both because it signifies that the owner has travelled much and learned other musics such as that of the Chopi, and because one needs several wives to sing the melody above the xylophone part
- e) The player of the notched friction-bow (*xizambi*) is a court retainer who entertains visiting dignitaries for the chief