

Social Studies / History Assessment: The Transatlantic Slave Trade and the Fight for Abolition

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of the history of the transatlantic slave trade, the conditions experienced by enslaved people, and the historical movement towards abolition.

Read each question carefully. Use your historical knowledge to provide clear and accurate answers. Write in full sentences where requested.

During the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, millions of African people were captured and forced onto ships to be sold as enslaved workers in the Americas. This system was part of the 'Triangular Trade' between Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Many worked on large plantations, growing crops like sugar, cotton, and tobacco. Over time, brave individuals—both those who were enslaved and those who campaigned for justice—began to speak out against the cruelty of this system. This movement led to the eventual abolition of the slave trade and the practice of slavery in many parts of the world.

Word bank: Abolition · Plantation · Triangular Trade · Enslaved · Human Rights · Campaign · Resistance · Freedom

1. Explain what the 'Triangular Trade' was in your own words. (2 marks)

2. Name two types of crops that enslaved people were often forced to grow on plantations. (2 marks)

3. What does the word 'abolition' mean in the context of this historical period? (2 marks)

4. Give one example of how enslaved people showed resistance against their treatment. (3 marks)

5. Why was the campaign to end the slave trade considered a significant turning point in the history of human rights? (4 marks)

6. Imagine you are an abolitionist campaigner in the 18th century. Write a short speech (about 100 words) explaining why the slave trade should be stopped immediately. Include references to the treatment of people and the importance of freedom. (5 marks)

7. Ellie the elephant has been studying history. She says, 'It is important to remember the past, even when it is difficult, to ensure we treat everyone with respect today.' Why do you think learning about this topic is important for us today? (7 marks)

Draw: Draw a commemorative symbol or monument that could be used to honour those who fought for freedom and the abolition of slavery.



Extension challenge: Total: /25