

Ellie's History Challenge: The Abolition of the Slave Trade

Learning objective: To understand the historical context of the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the movement to abolish it within the British Empire.

Help Ellie the elephant uncover the history of the slave trade. Read the historical facts and answer the ten questions below to test your knowledge.

1. 1700s/1800s; 2. The Transatlantic Slave Trade involved the forced movement of people from Africa to the Americas; 3. True; 4. False (He was a key campaigner); 5. Olaudah Equiano; 6. False (It happened in 1807); 7. 1833; 8. Middle Passage; 9. Abolition; 10. They were forced to work on plantations without pay. Answer Key: 1. 18th and 19th centuries; 2. C; 3. True; 4. False; 5. Olaudah Equiano; 6. False; 7. The Slavery Abolition Act 1833; 8. Middle Passage; 9. Abolition; 10. They were treated as property.

Word bank: Abolition · Transatlantic · Empire · Campaign · Enslaved · Parliament · Legislation

1. During which centuries did the peak of the Transatlantic Slave Trade occur? (1 word) (1 mark)

2. What was the main purpose of the Transatlantic Slave Trade? A) To explore new lands, B) To trade spices, C) To transport enslaved people to work on plantations, D) To find gold. (Select A, B, C, or D*) (1 mark)

3. True or False: Enslaved people were often treated as property rather than human beings. (1 mark)

4. True or False: William Wilberforce was a supporter of the slave trade. (1 mark)

5. Who was the formerly enslaved writer who published an autobiography that helped turn public opinion against slavery? (1 name) (1 mark)

6. True or False: Slavery in the British Empire was made illegal in 1600. (1 mark)

7. What was the name of the 1833 law that began the process of ending slavery across most of the British Empire? (1 mark)

8. What is the term used for the brutal sea journey across the Atlantic Ocean that enslaved people were forced to endure? (1 mark)

9. What is the formal word for the act of putting an end to a system or practice, such as slavery? (1 mark)

10. What was the main reason enslaved people were forced to work on plantations in the Americas? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a commemorative plaque or a statue that might be placed in a town square to honour those who campaigned for the freedom of others.



Extension challenge: Research one person who campaigned against the slave trade and write a short, three-sentence paragraph explaining why their work was important.