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

Learning objective: To understand the historical context, the impact of the slave trade, and the work of abolitionists in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Join Ellie the elephant as she explores this important period of history. Read each question carefully and select the best answer based on your Year 6 history knowledge.

Answer Key: 1. B (1807), 2. False, 3. True, 4. Olaudah Equiano, 5. C (Sugar/Cotton), 6. True, 7. 1833, 8. True, 9. William Wilberforce, 10. False.

Word bank: Abolitionist · Transatlantic · Parliament · Plantation · Campaign · Enslaved

1. 1. In which year did the British Parliament pass the Act to abolish the slave trade? A) 1780 B) 1807* C) 1833 D) 1900 (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Slavery ended in all British colonies immediately in 1807. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: The Transatlantic Slave Trade involved the forced movement of people from Africa to the Americas. (1 mark)

4. 4. What was the name of the formerly enslaved man who wrote an autobiography detailing his experiences and campaigned against slavery? (1-word answer) (1 mark)

5. 5. Which crops were commonly grown on plantations using enslaved labour? A) Wheat and Barley B) Potatoes and Carrots C) Sugar and Cotton* D) Rice and Peas (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: Many ordinary people in Britain joined the campaign against slavery by boycotting sugar. (1 mark)

7. 7. In what year did the Slavery Abolition Act finally end the practice of slavery throughout most of the British Empire? (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Abolitionists were people who worked hard to bring an end to the slave trade. (1 mark)

9. 9. Which famous Member of Parliament led the campaign against the slave trade for over 20 years? (2-word answer) (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: The conditions on the ships during the Middle Passage were safe and comfortable. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a commemorative plaque or a statue dedicated to those who campaigned for the freedom and rights of enslaved people.

Extension challenge: Research a person who helped end the slave trade. Write a short paragraph explaining why their work was so important to human rights today.