Historical Inquiry: The Transatlantic Slave Trade

Learning objective: To understand the impact and scale of the Transatlantic Slave Trade by structuring a historical report.

Use the prompts below to build your report. Ellie the Elephant reminds you to check your facts and use formal, respectful language when discussing this sensitive period of history.

The Transatlantic Slave Trade was a period of profound injustice that fundamentally shaped the history of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in addition to · nevertheless · devastating impact · human rights · historical evidence · economic consequences · abolition · long-term legacy

1. The Triangular Trade: Explain how the three legs of the journey functioned by starting with: The trade route began in Europe, where manufactured goods were transported to... (3 marks)

2. Life and Resistance: Describe the experiences of enslaved people by starting with: Conditions for those captured were inhumane; however, many individuals resisted by... (3 marks)

3. Economic Impact: Discuss the role of the trade in the British economy by starting with: Wealth accumulated during this era was often generated through the exploitation of... (3 marks)

4. The Movement for Abolition: Explain how the trade ended by starting with: Public pressure grew as campaigners and formerly enslaved people highlighted the cruelty of the trade, eventually leading to... (3 marks)

5. Reflection and Legacy: Conclude by considering the lasting effects by starting with: Today, it is essential to remember this period because... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a key figure in the abolition movement, such as Olaudah Equiano or William Wilberforce. Write a short paragraph explaining their specific contribution to changing British law.