

The Atlantic Slave Trade Knowledge Organiser



Glossary of Key Terms

Middle passage	The journey of slaves on ships from Africa to America. Took 8-12 weeks. 1 in 4 died on the way.
Transatlantic	Going across the Atlantic Ocean
Abolitionist	Someone who campaigned to end the slave trade
Plantation	A large farm on which crops such as coffee, sugar and tobacco were grown.
Shackles	Iron chains used to fasten the legs or hands of a slave or prisoner.
Branding	To mark a person or animal with a hot iron to show ownership.
Cargo	Goods carried for trade
Slave	A person who is the property of another and is forced to obey them.
Auction	Slaves were sold to the highest bidder.
Underground Railroad	The network of routes that helped slaves escape. Conductors helped the slaves who were referred to as passengers to escape. Between 40,000 and 100,000 slaves managed to escape to the northern states of America or Canada using the Underground Railroad.
Jim Crow Laws	Slaves had been banned from reading and writing. Laws said they had to pass a test before they could vote. This stopped them voting. Black people could not mix freely with white people. From 1896 it was legal to keep Black and White people separate.

Between the 16th and 19th centuries, European merchants transported an estimated 12.5 million Africans across the Atlantic to work in slavery in the Americas.

This was known as the **Transatlantic Slave Trade**.

Key Events

1562: Sir John Hawkins was given permission by Elizabeth I to begin transporting captured African slaves to America. There they were sold. He is called the “father of the slave trade”.

1804: Haiti was named by slaves who had rebelled against their masters led by Toussaint Louverture.

1807: The Slave Trade was abolished in England.

1833: Slavery was abolished in the British Empire.

1865: Slavery was abolished in America.

1960s: Black Americans still do not have equality with white Americans. Martin Luther King campaigned to change this.

2009: Barack Obama was elected as the first African American to be

elected President of America.



Key Figures

Harriet Tubman: She was born a slave in 1820 in Maryland. In 1849 she ran away. The Underground Railroad helped her to reach Canada. She became a conductor and made 19 journeys back to Maryland to help slaves escape. She led 300 people to safety.



William Wilberforce: A British MP and abolitionist who campaigned against the slave trade.



Olaudah Equiano: A slave who bought his freedom and published a description of life as a slave. He became an anti-slavery campaigner.

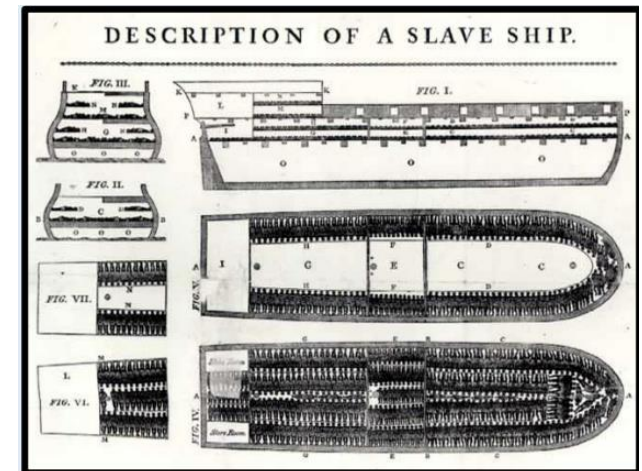
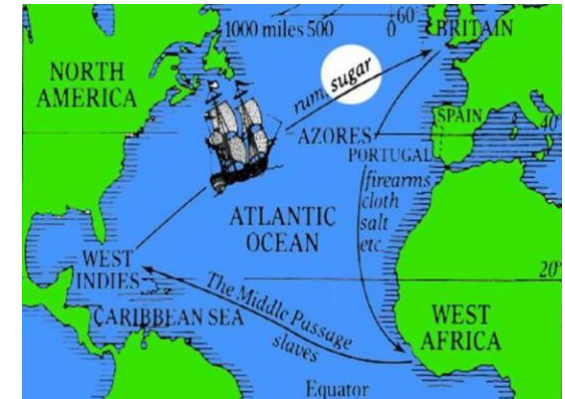


Toussaint Louverture: A slave who led the rebellion to reclaim Haiti.

The Slavery Triangle

A three-part trading journey:

1. European ships took cloth, guns, iron pots, swords to Africa and exchanged them for African slaves.
2. Ships loaded with slaves crossed the Atlantic to America where they were sold.
3. Ships loaded with sugar, cotton, tobacco



Timeline of Major Events

From 1560s onwards British traders got involved with the slave trade.	1788 Newton published a pamphlet called 'Thoughts Upon the African Slave Trade'.	1791 Revolt on the island of Saint-Domingue	1804 The free slaves of Saint-Domingue renamed the island Haiti	1807 The British Parliament abolished the slave trade. Buying and selling slaves = illegal	1811 Deslondes led a slave rebellion in the South of the USA.	1833 British Parliament banned slave ownership throughout the British Empire	1861-1865 American Civil War 1865 13 th Amendment abolished slavery in the US.	2007 Memorial campaign to build a memorial to victims of the Transatlantic slave in	2020 During the BLM protests – the statue of Colston was torn down.
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