

## Homework 1: What was the slave triangle?

### Key Words:

Slave:

Slave Triangle:

Middle Passage:

Plantation:



1: A British slave ship set off from Liverpool or Bristol, carrying trade goods (such as beer and cloth), and sailed to Africa.

2: When the ship arrived in Africa slaves were often captured (arrested) by the white British people. Many of the slaves were separated from their families, stripped naked and beaten up. The slaves were often chained together and whipped.

3: Sometimes African leaders would sell their own people to the British so they could make money. Slaves could be sold to make £20 which was a lot of money in 1700.

4: The British ships would then be loaded with the slaves. The ship then sailed across the Atlantic Ocean to the West Indies. This was known as the 'Middle Passage' as it was the middle part of the journey between Africa and America. The Middle Passage was a horrible journey, as slaves would be chained together inside a ship, so couldn't move- they would have to go to toilet where they were, and were often only given rotting food. Imagine what the journey would be like if the sea was rough!

5: After the Middle Passage, the slave ships would arrive in the West Indies. Here slaves would be sold for up to £20. Once a slave had been sold, they would be chained together again and forced to go and work on a plantation which is a large area of land where slaves would be forced to farm cotton or sugar.

6: Finally, Some ships, but not all, then loaded up with sugar and rum to sell in England. The ship would sail from the West Indies back to England. Some slaves were taken to England to work in large houses as maids.

**Questions to answer in full sentences:**

1: Where did the slave ships set off from?

2: If a slave in Africa was captured by a British person, how would they be treated?

3: Why did African leaders force their own people to become slaves?

4: Which two countries does the Middle Passage go from and to?

5: What was the Middle Passage journey like for slaves?

6: What would happen to a slave once the ship arrived in the West Indies?

7: When the ships sailed back to England what goods were on them?

**Challenge Yourself:**

Why do you believe the British felt they could treat the slaves so badly during the Middle Passage journey?