Term 1 - Year 8 Empire & Slavery

The British Empire – The British Empire was at its height the largest Empire the world has ever seen, consisting of 22% of the Earth's total land mass! Historians argue that the Empire can be split into two distinct categories:

Key information

- The 'First' British Empire (1583-1783)
- The 'Second' British Empire (1783-1924)

Main Differences between the 'Empires':

- Control over the United States of America. the first Empire controlled the USA, the 'Second' did not. American independence in 1776 secured this.
- The **First** Empire was formed by small individual groups of British Seamen and was not led by a unified government.
- The **Second** Empire was led by a unified government aim for Britain to dominate the waters of the world.



Transatlantic Slave Trade – The trading of slaves across the Atlantic Ocean, The British and French Empires both participated in the trading of slaves from Africa to America where they were forced to

Key information

work under verv harsh conditions. The Slave trade led to 'Triangular Trade'.

Triangular Trade was the trading of goods in a cycle

between Europe. Africa and America. It consisted of 3 passages the First, Middle and Final passages. Each carried different 'goods' as seen in the map above.

The Middle Passage – Was the journey from Africa to America where slaves were transported aboard ships. The journey took up to **60 days** and **2 million** slaves would die on the journey from the terrible conditions. The Trial of the Slave ship Zong 1781 highlights how slaves were treated, also the attitudes towards slaves at this time.

Slave Auctions - Places where the slaves from Africa were sold to rich men in America. Often to work on Sugar plantations.

The 'First' British Empire (1583-1783) Including the USA.

Key events

- The 'Second' British Empire (1783-1924) Not including the USA. Did include both India and China.
- American War for Independence: USA gained independence on 4th July 1776.
- Formation of the East India Trading Company 1600.
- Slave Ship Zong massacre 29th November 1781. (Trial in 1783)
- 1833 Abolition of slavery in the Europe.
- 1865 Abolition of slavery in the USA...

Key people

- Captain Luke Collingwood: The Captain of the Slave ship Zong.
- Olaudah Equiano: A slave who wrote about his journey to America, managed to save enough money to buy his freedom.
- Queen Victoria, Queen of Britain from 1837-1901: Led the British Empire for these years.
- Nat Turner: A slave who led a rebellion against his slave owners in 1831.
- Christopher Columbus: Italian explorer who discovered the 'new world' (America) 1492. It paved the way for the colonisation of America.



Term 1 Year 8 British **Empire and Slavery**



Key Words

Kev Words *Slave:* Someone who is 'owned' by another person. Nationalism: loyalty or devotion of a group of

Imperialism: Imperialism is a policy or ideology of extending a country's rule over foreign nations. **Empire:** An extensive group of states or countries ruled over by a single Monarch.

people to their country

Monarch: King or Queen, Head of sovereign state. Colony: An area under rule of another country occupied by its settlers.

Settler: Someone who settles/lives in another country.

Forced to work without pay. The Middle Passage: The journey from Africa to

America where slaves were transported, the second/middle journey in the 'triangle' of trade. Slave Auction: Where slaves were bidded on and sold to the highest bidder.

Sugar Plantation: A place where sugar was grown and harvested, often by slaves who were forced to work in very poor conditions.

Overseer: A promoted slave who 'oversaw' other slaves on a plantation and made sure they worked. **Identify** – pick out and use key information to identify points that can help answer a question.

Skills

Describe - give a description of what something is or how something happened/changed.

Explain – giving a detailed description of why something occurred using causes and effects.

Evaluate – identifying the importance / significance of an event, looking both short- and long-term effects of an event.

Analysis – looking at the 'WHY' something has change or is different considering all possibilities and linking it back to the importance/significance.



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