



Lesson 4.2: The Middle Passage – World Orientation

Answers

Question 1

Elmina, Cape Coast, Saltpond, etc.

Own interpretation, places, including older names of the locations, can be found in an (old) atlas or on the internet.

Question 2

Slaves were held captive at the Elmina Fortress, in the current Ghana. Why there?

Answer: The fortress was built along the sea, close to the roadstead of Elmina where the ships could lay safely at anchor while they traded and purchased enslaved Africans.

Why did this take so long?

Answer: trade goods were taken for the purchase approximately 300 enslaved Africans. In the captain's instructions the board of the MCC had indicated exactly where he was required to trade the goods and how long he was required to stay along each section of the coast of Western Africa to trade. He first needed to have enough enslaved Africans on board before he was allowed to begin the passage to the West Indies.

Question 3

Answer: ivory, gold, unsold/not traded merchandise, provisions for the persons on board the ship, ballast, millet, tobacco and short pipes (slave pipes) for the African's, lime juice, loin cloths for the Africans, etc.

Question 4

Answer: on the 'Tweendeck. The African prisoners were transported seated or laying down in the specially constructed slave quarters.

Describe how you envision this?

Own interpretation. Information: <http://eenigheid.slavenhandelmcc.nl/trajecten-van-de-reis-en/oversteek-en/oversteek-slaven/?lang=en>

What do you think this meant for the slaves aboard the ship?

Answer: Own ideas, for example: the Africans were exhausted and weak, they were afraid because they did not know what would happen to them, they were sad and desperate because they lost their family, friends, acquaintances, villagers, etc. and/or did not know what had happened to them, they were treated poorly, they fell sick, etc.