



Lesson 5.1: West Indies – World Orientation

Answers

Question 1

What happened to many slaves during this arduous journey?

Answer: Many slaves died from illness, misery, or by jumping overboard.

How were the slaves transported?

Answer: They were held in small stuffy quarters. Often the men were shackled.

What was important for the health of the slaves?

Answer: Moving to music. But also: cleaning the slave quarters on the Tween deck, enough food, water and air (all of this is described in the book *“Noodige onderrichtingen voor de slaafhandelaren”* (‘Necessary teachings for slave traders’) by surgeon D.H. de Gallandat (1769). In the book Gallandat provides guidelines for the treatment of enslaved African’s on board the slave ships. The whole text, in Dutch, can be found here: <http://slavernij.eloweb.nl/literatuurlijst/bibliotheek/gallandat.pdf>

Question 2

Life aboard for a slave was a living hell. Why do you think this was?

Possible answers:

The African prisoners

- received little food or drink.
- were often shackled.
- did not breath enough fresh air.
- could barely move.
- were frightened, unsure, sad and desperate.
- did not know what happened to their family, friends, villagers, etc..
- dealt with various diseases on board.

Question 3

Possible answers:

- There had to be food and drink.
- They needed to be able to wash themselves.
- They needed fresh air.
- It was not allowed to abuse them.
- The slave quarters needed to be clean.
- They needed sufficient exercise.

What would have been the purpose of these rules?

Answer: keep the Africans as healthy as possible so they good be sold for a good price in The New World.

Question 4

Who bought the Africans?

Answer: mostly the plantation owners.

Why were they bought?

Answer: to work as slaves on the plantations.

Question 5

Answer:

Grenada

Martinique

Montserrat

St. Vincent

Dominica

Antigua

St. Kitts.

St. Lucia

Guadeloupe

Barbuda

Question 6

What do we best know these islands for?

Answer: for instance vacations, movies, persons who are from these islands and live here now, etc.

Most slaves were brought to the West Indies. What do we call this area of the world now?

Answer: the Caribbean, but parts also belong to the America's.

Question 7

What do you suppose happened to the slaves who died aboard during the Middle Passage?

Answer: they were thrown overboard unceremoniously.

Question 8

Which two bodies of water are on the map?

Answer: Caribbean Sea, Atlantic Ocean

Question 9

Here you see a part of the list of sold slaves. What do you notice?

Answer: for instance it states that a mother and child on the list, or, the number of men and women is equal, but there are 2 boys and 1 girl.