

Year 8 Term 4: What are the origins, impact and legacy of transatlantic slavery?



Key dates

1444	The Portuguese begin to capture Africans for enslavement.
1619	The first African captives arrive in Virginia, marking the beginning of African slavery in the American colonies.
1655	England takes control of Jamaica from Spain, beginning its participation in the slave trade.
1672	The Royal African Company is granted a monopoly on the British slave trade.
1807	The British Parliament passes the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, making it illegal to engage in the slave trade throughout the British colonies.
1808	The United States officially bans the international slave trade.
1833	The Slavery Abolition Act is passed in the United Kingdom, marking the start of gradual emancipation in British colonies.
1834	Slavery officially ends in the British Empire.
1863	The Emancipation Proclamation is issued in the United States by President Abraham Lincoln, declaring that all slaves in Confederate-held territory are to be set free.
1865	The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is ratified, abolishing slavery in the United States.
1888	Slavery is abolished in Brazil, the last country in the Americas to do so, marking the end of official

Key Tier 3 vocabulary

Middle Passage	The stage of the triangular trade in which millions of Africans were forcibly transported to the New World as part of the Atlantic slave trade.
Abolitionism	The movement to end the slave trade and set free the enslaved people.
Plantation	A large-scale farm, estate or area of land designated for agricultural production, primarily of cash crops. Plantations were central to the slave trade as slaves were used as the main workforce.
Emancipation	The act of freeing people from slavery or oppression.
Slave Codes	Laws in each US state defining the status of slaves and the rights of their owners and masters.
Manumission	The act of a slave owner freeing his or her slaves.
Reparations	The act of making amends, offering expiation, or giving satisfaction for a wrong or injury, often in relation to historical wrongs such as slavery.
Maroon Communities	Groups of Africans who escaped slavery in the Americas and formed independent settlements.
Slave Rebellion	An armed uprising by slaves, with the aim of winning their freedom.
Abolition Act (1807/1833)	The acts passed by the British Parliament abolishing the slave trade (1807) and eventually slavery itself throughout the British Empire (1833).
Underground Railroad	A network of secret routes and safe houses established in the United States during the early to mid-19th century. It was used by enslaved African-Americans to escape into free states and

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Prior knowledge required:	Provides building blocks for:
- Slavery in Roman Empire - Slavery on Silk Roads - Growth of exploration - The British Empire	Industrial Revolution Civil rights movement <i>Power and the People GCSE</i>

Key people	
Olaudah Equiano	A freed slave who became a prominent abolitionist in the UK. His autobiography, "The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano," had a significant influence on public opinion and legislation.
William Wilberforce	A British politician, philanthropist, and leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade. His efforts led to the passage of the Slave Trade Act 1807.
Harriet Tubman	An African American abolitionist and political activist, she escaped slavery and then made some thirteen missions to rescue approximately seventy enslaved people using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.
Frederick Douglass	A former slave, he became a renowned orator, writer, and staunch abolitionist. His autobiography, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave," was a highly influential work in the abolitionist movement.
Thomas Clarkson	An English abolitionist and a leading campaigner against the slave trade in the British Empire. He helped found The Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade and secured passage of the Slave Trade Act of 1807.

Key knowledge
Terminology for enslaved people. Triangular trade; Why Britain become involved.in transatlantic slavery
Royal African Company monopoly; Edward Colston
Middle Passage (resistance during this); plantations- enslaved experiences
How slavery impacted: Gold Coast, Barbados, Bristol
Resistance- Example of Jamaica; St Domingue
The story of abolition. Including key dates of 1807 and 1833
The legacy of slavery- West Africa; Caribbean; Bristol

What cross-curricular links can you make with this big picture enquiry question?

Key historical skills		
Cause/consequence	Similarity/difference	Change/continuity
Significance	Sources	Interpretations