Chapter 3.4 The Atlantic Slave Trade

Objectives

- Explain how the triangular trade worked.
- Understand the nature of the Middle Passage and describe its effects.
- Analyze the impact of the Atlantic slave trade.

Terms and People

- ______________________ — colonial trade routes among Europe and its colonies, the West Indies, and Africa in which goods were exchanged for slaves
- ______________________ — the second leg of triangular trade in which slaves were transported to the Americas
- ______________________ — enslaved African who published an autobiography in the late 1700s detailing his experiences
- ______________________ — a revolt aboard a ship

How did the Atlantic slave trade shape the lives and economies of Africans and Europeans?

An ______________________ ______________________ began in the 1500s. A key part of it was the slave trade, in which Africans were taken from their homes, ______________________ to the Americas.

The ______________________ were the first European partners in the slave trade. As other European nations established colonies, the slave trade intensified.

A series of trade routes linking ______________________ ______________________ arose during the 1500s.

- This was known as ______________________.
- The ______________________, in which slaves were transported to America, was one part of the triangle.

First, ships brought European goods to Africa—________
______________

Slaves were transported to the Americas on the second leg, known as the Middle Passage.

Finally, merchants carried goods from America to Europe—______________________________.
Triangular trade helped colonial economies grow.

• Merchants and certain industries thrived. For example, ___________________________ growing were very lucrative.

• Port cities such as ________________ in England and ____________________, Rhode Island, grew quickly as a result.

____________________ were taken from villages in the interior and forced to walk in chains to coastal ports.

____________________ described how he felt as an 11-year-old captive:

“The first object which saluted my eyes when I arrived on the coast was the sea, and a slave ship which was then riding at anchor and waiting for its cargo. These filled me with astonishment which was soon converted into terror when I was carried on board.”

—Olaudah Equiano

The Middle Passage was a terrible journey in which many ________________________________.

Once on the ships, Africans were __________________ the decks for a long voyage of weeks or months.

Slave ships faced many ________________________________ on their journeys.

Slave ships were ________________________________ in which up to ____________________ of the Africans on board died.

Most died of ____________________ such as dysentery or smallpox. Others ____________________.

There were also ____________________, storms at sea, and raids by pirates.

The impact of the Atlantic slave trade on Africans was devastating.

______________________________ were torn apart.

As many as ____________________ died during the brutal Middle Passage.

Some ________________________________ were taken to the Americas by the time the slave trade ended in the mid-1800s.