

Paired Text Questions

Part 1: Use the article "African Immigration to Colonial America [Abridged]" to answer the following questions:

1. What made some Africans on the Middle Passage believe that they were bound for the slaughterhouse to be eaten by cannibals?
2. How did the survivors of the Middle Passage "ma[ke] the new land their own"?

Part 2: Use the article "Olaudah Equiano" to answer the following questions:

3. Describe the conditions of the overseas journey Olaudah Equiano was forced to take. Use at least three details from the text to support your description.
4. Equiano wrote, "I now wished for the last friend, Death, to relieve me[.]" What did he mean by this? Use evidence from his first-hand account to support your answer.
5. Why might finding "some of [his] own nation" have given Equiano some ease during the Middle Passage? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

Part 3: Use the articles "African Immigration to Colonial America [Abridged]" & "Olaudah Equiano" to answer the following questions:

6. The essay "African Immigration to Colonial America" indicates that the Middle Passage placed black people in "dehumanizing circumstances." Dehumanizing circumstances are situations that seem to take away a person's human qualities. What evidence from both texts illustrates the Middle Passage's dehumanizing circumstances?
7. The essay "African Immigration to Colonial America" claims that the Middle Passage represents black people's "will to survive." Does Olaudah Equiano's first-hand account of the Middle Passage support or refute this claim? Support your answer with evidence from the text.