

Across the Atlantic

Trace the forced journey in the transatlantic slave trade.

5.3d "Africans were captured, brought to the Americas, and sold as slaves. Their transport across the Atlantic was known as the Middle Passage."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle the words *Middle Passage*. Then number these events in the passage: capture in Africa, transport across the Atlantic, and sale in the Americas.

A Forced Journey

- ① During the 1500s and later, European colonists in the Americas built plantations that grew crops such as sugar. Plantation owners wanted many workers and sought to make money by selling crops. European traders and some African leaders and traders took part in capturing and selling African people. This was not a choice for the people who were captured. Families and communities were harmed when people were taken away.
- ② Captive Africans were marched to coastal places, held, then forced onto ships. The voyage across the Atlantic Ocean from Africa to the Americas was called the Middle Passage. Ships were crowded, and captives had little space, poor food, and unsafe conditions. Many people became sick, and many died during the crossing. Enslaved people resisted in different ways, despite danger.
- ③ After surviving the crossing, Africans arrived in the Americas and were sold as slaves. Buyers forced them to work without freedom or pay, often on plantations. Enslaved Africans used their skills and knowledge to survive, build communities, and resist slavery. The transatlantic slave trade connected forced capture in Africa, the Middle Passage, and forced labor in the Americas. It caused lasting harm to millions of people and their descendants.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What was the Middle Passage?

2 Name two conditions captive Africans faced on ships during the Middle Passage.

3 Put these events in order: sale in the Americas, capture in Africa, forced crossing of the Atlantic.

4 How did the transatlantic slave trade connect Africa and the Americas?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write three sentences that explain the forced journey of an African person from capture to sale in the Americas. Use the words *captured*, *Middle Passage*, and *sold as slaves*, and include one shipboard condition.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Circle the words *Middle Passage*. Then number these events in the passage: capture in Africa, transport across the Atlantic, and sale in the Americas. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What was the Middle Passage?	The forced voyage across the Atlantic Ocean from Africa to the Americas.
2	Name two conditions captive Africans faced on ships during the Middle Passage.	Answers include crowded ships, little space, poor food, unsafe conditions, sickness, and death.
3	Put these events in order: sale in the Americas, capture in Africa, forced crossing of the Atlantic.	1. Capture in Africa. 2. Forced crossing of the Atlantic during the Middle Passage. 3. Sale in the Americas.
4	How did the transatlantic slave trade connect Africa and the Americas?	African people were captured in Africa, forced across the Atlantic during the Middle Passage, and sold as slaves in the Americas for forced labor.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Captured Africans were forced from their homes and placed on ships. The Middle Passage was the Atlantic crossing from Africa to the Americas, where crowded and unsafe conditions harmed many people. After the voyage, survivors were sold as slaves and forced to work without freedom or pay.

Accept equivalent wording that accurately identifies the forced Atlantic crossing and the sequence from capture to sale. For the open response, check for all three required terms, an accurate sequence, and one accurate shipboard condition.