



Slavery: Notes

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Slavery:

- **A forced labor system where people are treated as property allowing people to own, buy, and sell other people.**
- **The enslaved person, who is working for free, cannot quit working for their owner without permission.**
- **Slaves were of African descent**

History of Slavery:

- **~ 13th century: Slavery began in Africa**
 - About 1/3 of Africa's population was being sent throughout the country to perform forced labor for wealthy landowners.
- **~ 15th century: Portugal becomes the 1st European country to infiltrate the African slavery system**
 - Kidnapped slaves from west coast regions in Africa
 - Forced them to fulfill their labor requirements
 - Took 235 people and put them up for sale in Portugal
- Other European countries, such as Great Britain, France, Spain, and the Netherlands begin to gain slaves from Africa
- **1444: Atlantic Slave Trade begins**
 - European countries begin to trade slaves with Africa in exchange for wealth
- **Late 16th century: Triangular Trade begins**
 - Trade between Africa, the Americas, and Europe
 - Africa: Gave slaves to the Americas
 - Americas: Gave raw materials (cotton, sugar, tobacco) to Europe
 - Europe: Gave manufactured goods (guns, drinkware, ironware) to Africa



- **Middle Passage:**
 - The journey during the triangular trade of the slaves from Africa to the Americas
 - About 10% - 15% (2-4 million) of slaves died during this journey due to starvation, disease, or shock
- **1619: Slavery begins in America**
 - American trade slaves as property in order to fulfil labor requirements
 - Continued until the Abolition of Slavery

Slave Rebellions:

- **When slaves were tired of being treated as property, they thought starting a rebellion could help them be free**
- They occurred in **all places that slavery was practiced**
- Some famous slave rebellions included...
 - **Nat Turner's Rebellion**
 - **German Coast Uprising**
 - **Stono Rebellion**
 - **The New York Slave Rebellions**
 - **Amistad Ship Revolt**

The Abolitionist Movement:

- The **movement to end slavery**
- Gained strength between the **1830's-1860's**
- The Underground Railroad was a part of it
- Important People:
 - **Fredrick Douglass**
 - **William Lloyd Garrison**
 - **Harriet Tubman**
 - **Harriet Beecher Stowe**
 - **William H. Seward**
 - **Thaddeus Stevens**

Missouri Compromise:

- Passed in **1820**
- **Established Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state**
- **Made to maintain balance between the North and South in the U.S. Senate**



Kansas-Nebraska Act:

- **1854**
- **Created the territories of Kansas and Nebraska**
- Allowed people within each state to decide whether slavery would be allowed there

John Brown's Raid :

- **On Harpers Ferry, West Virginia**
- **October 16, 1859 - October 18, 1859**
- **John Brown wanted to initiate a slave revolt in the southern states and in order to do this, he took over the United States arsenal**
- Some people call this **“the dress rehearsal” for the Civil War**
- **October 17, 1859:** A company of U.S. marines led by **Col. Robert E. Lee** and **Lt. J.E.B. Stewart** arrived
 - **On October 19, 1859:** The soldiers overpowered Brown and his men, and 10 of his men were killed (2 of them being his sons)
- **Brown was found guilty of treason and murder by the State of Virginia**
 - He was later executed