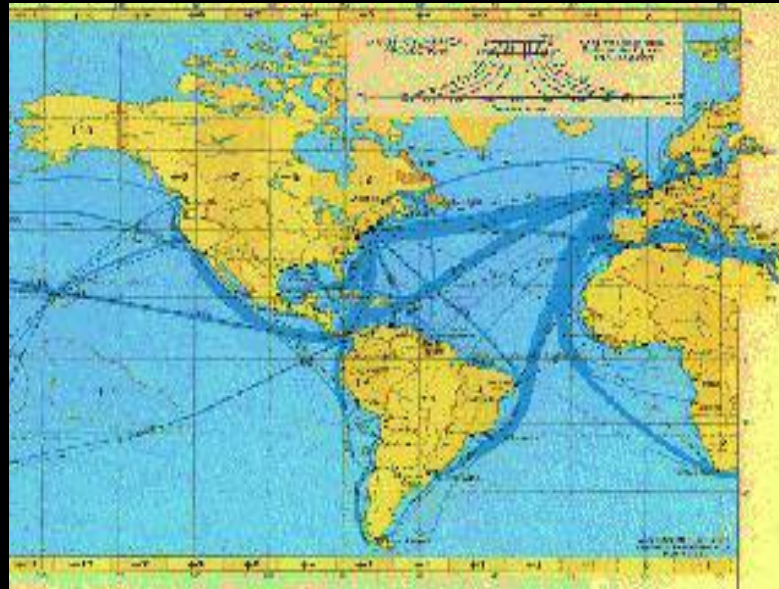
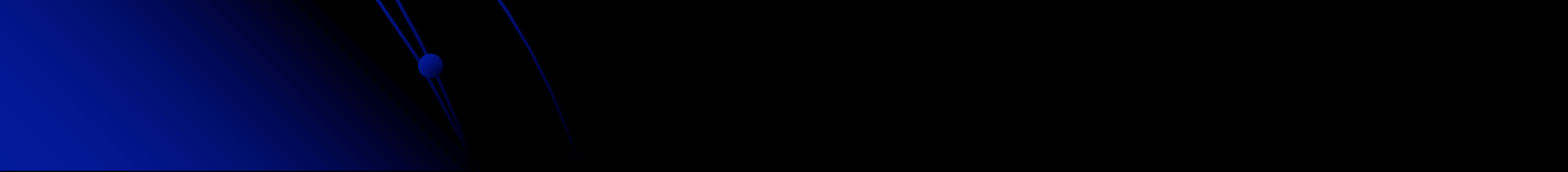


# Voices from The Transatlantic Slave Trade

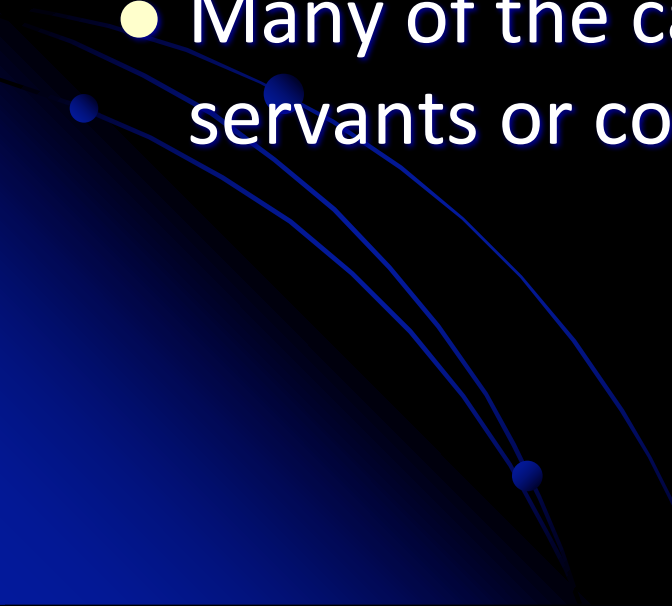



To view this PDF as a projectable presentation, save the file, click “View” in the top menu bar of the file, and select “Full Screen Mode”

To request an editable PPT version of this presentation, send a request to [CarolinaK12@unc.edu](mailto:CarolinaK12@unc.edu)



# Trans-Saharan Slave Trade

- Between the 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, African captives were sold in Islamic markets around the area of present-day Sudan.
  - Many of the captives were female, sold for servants or concubines.
- 

- **Other captives were shipped north across the deserts of northwest Africa to the Mediterranean coast (to Morocco).**
  - **Africans were purchased there to work as servants in Spain, Portugal, and other countries.**
  - **By the mid-1400's, Portuguese ship captains were trading slaves along the west coast of Africa for working on sugar plantations.**
- 



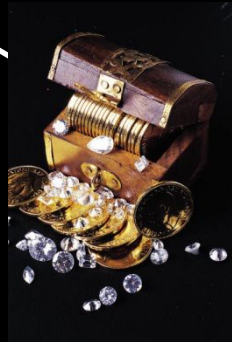
# Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

- In 1492, Columbus landed in the “New World.” This new link between continents opened the door for the beginning of the **Trans-Atlantic** slave trade.
- Spanish adventurers and conquistadors arrived in the Americas throughout the following years, enslaving Native Americans to search for gold and silver.
- Natives were weakened by disease, malnutrition, and Spanish cruelty.
- As the Native American population decreased, the Spanish government turned to African slaves to replace the enslaved Native work force.
- **Around 1520, the first African slaves arrived in the Americas off of Portuguese ships.**

# Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade



- In 1492, Columbus landed in the “New World”, beginning the Trans-Atlantic slave trade.



- Spanish adventurers arrived in the following years, enslaving Natives to search for gold and silver.



- Natives were weakened by disease, malnutrition, and Spanish cruelty.

- Around 1520, the first African slaves arrived in the Americas off of Portuguese ships.



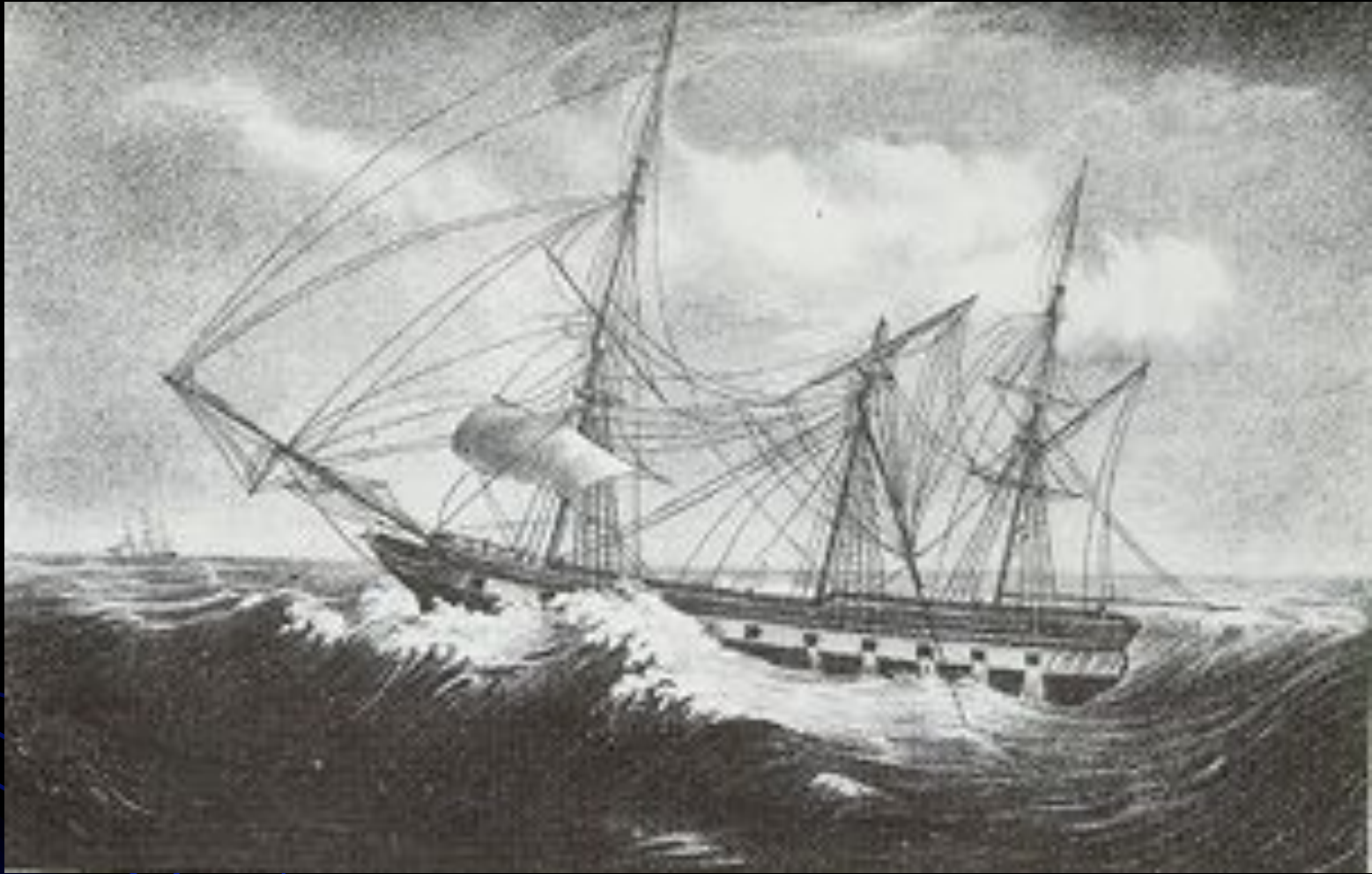


## Triangle Trade Route



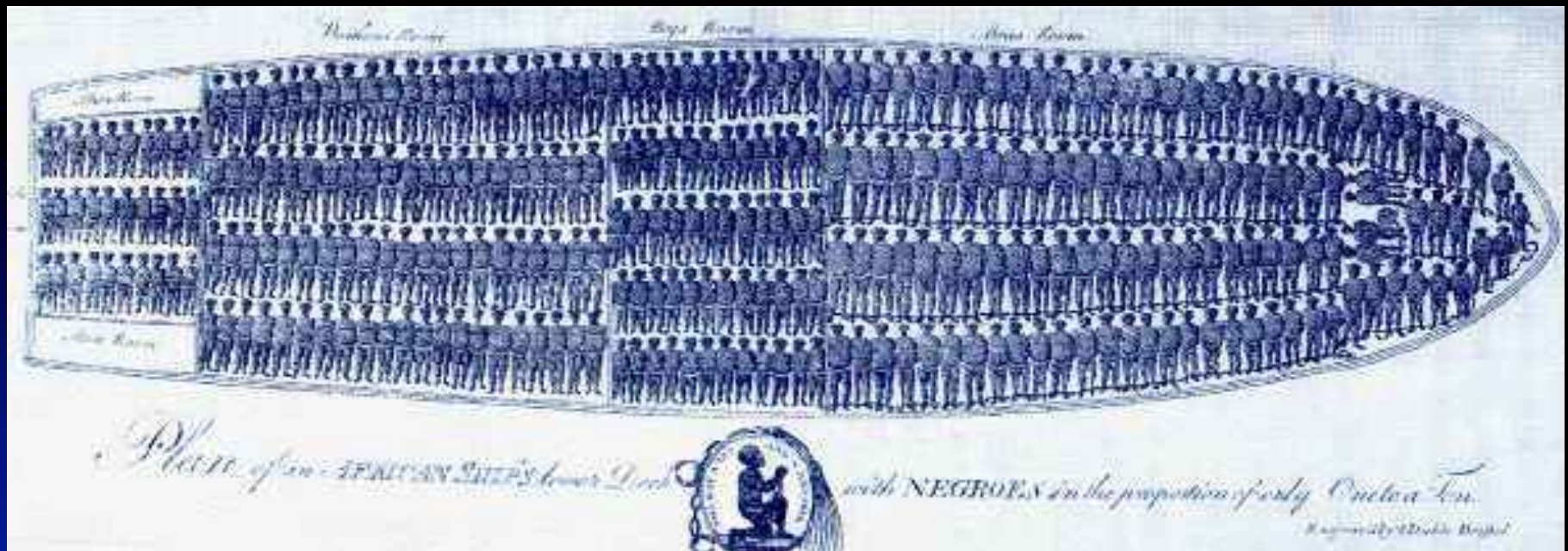
# The Middle Passage



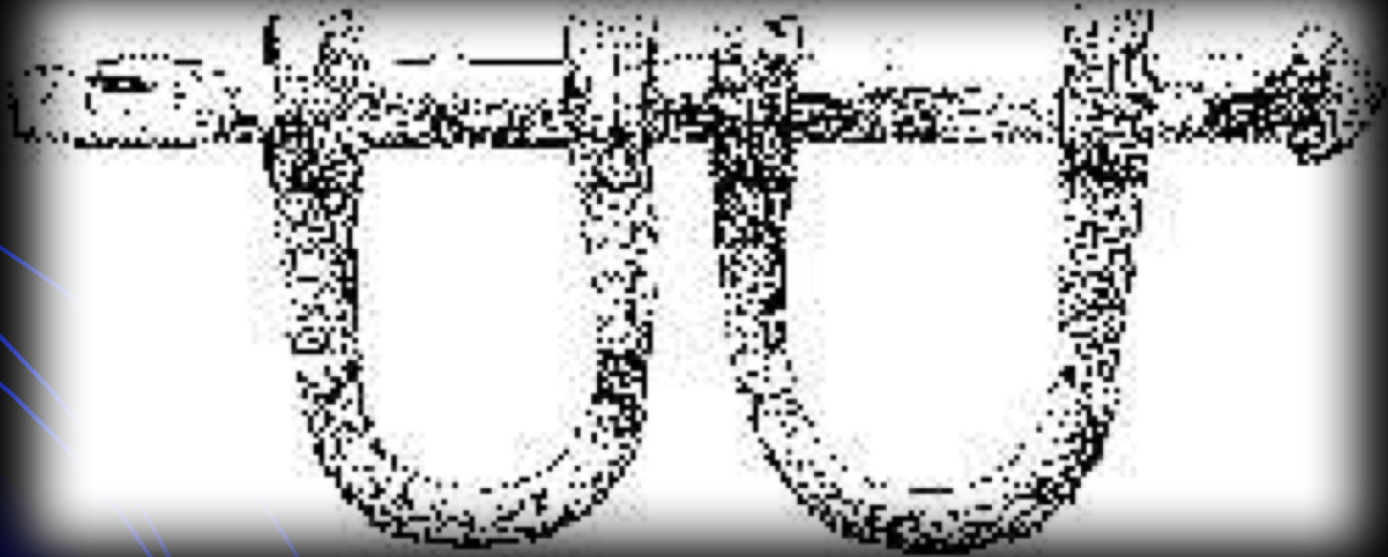


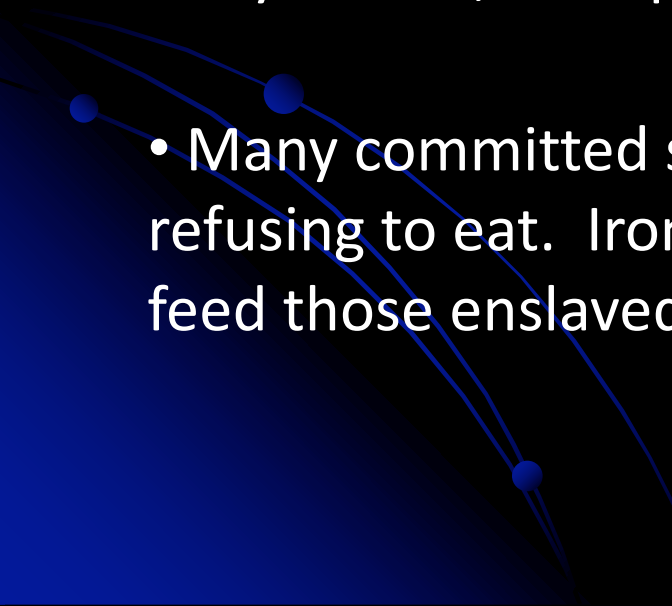
What do you think life aboard a slave ship  
would have been like?

- People were packed into ships on numerous wooden platforms between decks.
- These decks were generally around 4x6, with little head room.
- The captured suffered from scrapes, bruises, and infections from lying on these bare, unsanitary planks.



- Once enslaved, the men and women were typically confined by leg irons while on the ship.
- They were often tortured with whip beating and iron collars.



- Conditions below deck were crowded and unsanitary. The wooden holding areas were covered with excrement, blood, and filth. Only tubs were provided for people to relieve themselves.
  - Due to these poor conditions, many of those captured suffered and died from diseases such as dysentery, dehydration, smallpox, and gastrointestinal diseases.
  - Many committed suicide by jumping overboard or refusing to eat. Iron poles were sometimes used to force feed those enslaved.
- 

15%-20% of enslaved people usually died on the journey to the Americas, a trip generally taking several miserable months.





**Imagine:**

What is he thinking?

...hoping?

...wishing?

...remembering?

...seeing?

...feeling?







## Assignment: African Journals

Africans who were sold into the slave trade had identities beyond being “a slave”. They were people living their lives, surviving as human beings, and performing day to day activities. These people were individuals with skills, hopes, dreams, and feelings.


They had identities beyond the world they were forced into once captured.

Students will assume the role of an African and create their personal journal that details their life both before and after being sold into slavery.

## Step for Completion:

1. Brainstorm

2. Choose a region of Africa and a particular time period to research. In your research, focus on finding out information that will help you infer your characters day to day life. For example, you may want to find out information about:

- Environment
  - Jobs and daily habits
  - Culture and traditions
  - Religion
  - Habitat
- 

## Step for Completion:

3. Choose an African name and begin to imagine this person's life.

### NAME EXAMPLES

#### Women

- Adanna
- Adetokumbo (ah-Deh-toh-koom-boh)
- Adebumi (Ah-day-boo-me)
- Adowa (ah-doo-wah)
- Aina (eye-nah)
- Dacia (day-sha)
- Dericia (Dah-ree-sha)
- Tanginika (Tann-J-Nee-ka)
- Takiyah
- Tatu
- Obax (OH-bah)
- Obioma (O-be-o-ma)

#### Men

- Babu
- Babtund
- Banga
- Faraji
- Fela
- Abimbola
- Adisa
- Adofo
- Kantigi
- Kashka
- Zahur
- Zere

4. As you brainstorm and imagine, begin to create your African's journal entries. Your beginning entries should be set in your African home.

In your beginning entries, consider:

-Who are you?

-Describe where you live.

-What do you do each day?

-Who is around you? Who do you spend your time with?

-What do you enjoy?

-What are your hopes and dreams?

-What are your skills?

-What do you dislike?

5. Middle entries (After your capture, the voyage across the Middle Passage, and your arrival in the Americas)...

-Where are you while writing each entry (on a boat, in a cell/stockade, at a sale...)?

-How were you captured? Who captured you? What were you doing before captured? What was your life like before captured?

-What is happening around you?

-What do you see? Smell? Hear? Feel? Hope? Fear? Wish?

-How are you handling this situation?

-How are others around you handling this situation?

-What do you think is going to happen?

-How are you managing to survive?

## 6. Final entries...

- What have you discovered about yourself?
- What are your reflections regarding this experience thus far?
- What happens to you? (Does your journal have an ending entry, does the writing simply drop off the page and we never know, etc.?)

Assignment Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

