

# Slavery – For and Against

arguments sorting activity.

In the Bible it says that owning slaves is not wrong or unlawful.

Opinion was divided in the 1830s.

If we don't have slaves then Britain will not be as rich as it is now.

African people are perfectly capable of farming, making homes, making tools and looking after themselves.



# Slavery – For and Against

Here are a set of arguments which belong to different themes. The process of sorting them into themes will produce discussion which we hope will help your students research more arguments so that they could collaboratively come up with enough arguments and opinions to produce their own version of this activity. If you do, send your argument/opinions to the project!

You may find it more productive to enlarge grid and cards to A3 so that three or four can work together more easily

Developed by Steve Cooke.

Webaddress:

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/slaveryforandagainst>

Good for all pupils!  
Vital for EAL pupils!

It's empowering to talk ideas through  
before you write about them!

Basic principles behind our talk for  
learning activities:  
Oracy in curriculum contexts!

Build on children's own prior knowledge.  
Move from concrete to abstract.  
Ensure everyone works with  
everyone else.  
Extend social language towards  
curriculum language.  
Provide motivating ways to go over the  
same knowledge more than once.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

We support a network of teaching professionals to develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

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# Slavery - For and Against

To do with	Somebody who wants the abolition of slavery may say...		Somebody who wants slavery to continue may say...	
Trade and Money				
Opinions about African people				
The effects on African people.				
The treatment of African people				
The morality of trading and using slaves				

If we don't have slaves then Britain will not be as rich as it is now.	If Britain stops trading in slaves, other countries will continue trading and become rich and powerful.	African nations and people have always traded in slaves. They have been buying and selling each other for a long time.	African people who are taken as slaves have a better life than the people who are left in Africa.
The people who are slaves are not clever or skilful enough to do any other kind of work.	On the ships from Africa to America, the slaves are fed and given medicine if they need it.	Slave owners are kind to the slaves and only punish them if they deserve it.	In the Bible it says that owning slaves is not wrong or unlawful.
People who are taken as slaves are not able to look after themselves properly. It is better for them to have somebody who looks after them.	Slaves are inferior kinds of people. The people who own slaves are cleverer, more inventive and more able to organise things.	Just because other countries allow people to trade in slaves, it doesn't mean that it is right for Britain to do it.	Britain doesn't need to trade or use slaves to be rich. British companies can make enough money without slaves.
African people are not inferior to European people. They are just as clever and are able to benefit from education.	Workers, not slaves, are needed to keep the sugar plantations in the Caribbean productive and profitable.	African people are perfectly capable of farming, making homes, making tools and looking after themselves.	Many people die during the voyage from Africa to America. They may get a deadly disease or die from starvation.
Many slaves are treated very cruelly. They are often beaten with whips or sticks.	After they start working on a plantation many slaves only live for another eight or nine years.	As a Christian country it is surely wrong that Britain allows slavery. The Bible says that slavery and oppression is wrong.	Many slaves are separated from their families and friends when they are sold. They never see each other again.

## Slavery – For and Against – Opinions Cards