

Year 8 History 1 — Empire Struggles Knowledge Organisers

KEY WORDS	
Empire	A group of countries and people ruled
	over by another.
Transatlantic	Where millions of Africans were torn from
Slave Trade	their homes and taken to the Americas to
	be sold as slaves.
Enslaved	Sold into slavery taking away people's
	human rights.
Equiano	A former slave who became a writer and
	campaigner for the abolition of slavery.
Plantation	An estate/farm where crops such as cof-
	fee sugar and tobacco are grown.
Campaign	A planned set of activities aimed at
	bringing about change.
Resistance	Refusal to accept a situation.
Emancipation	Being set free by law.
Abolition	The legal ending of slavery.
Racism	The belief that one race is better than
	another (based on skin colour). This leads
	to discrimination/negative treatment.

KEY POINTS		
1	Empire building. The British ruled over numerous countries,	
	with India being the "Jewel in the crown"	
2	Africa had many advanced civilisations, such as the Kingdom	
	of Benin, the city of Timbuktu and ancient civilisation of	
	Egypt.	
3	Africa is a huge continent with rich resources like gold and in	
	the south and fertile farmland in the west.	
4	Triangular trade. A system, which involved ships leaving Eu-	
	rope for Africa, trading manufactured goods for people, ship-	
	ping them across the Atlantic to be sold into slavery. Ships	
	would then return to Europe with a cargo of sugar rum and	
	cotton.	
5	Middle Passage —The horrors of the journey from Africa to	
	the Americas across the Atlantic.	
6	Plantation life. A study of what life was like for enslaved	
	people working in the Americas.	
7	Chattel slavery. Slaves were treated as someone's property	
	enabling the owner to do as he wished with him or her.	
8	Equiano- was an enslaved African who bought his freedom,	
	wrote a book on his experiences and became a leading cam-	
	paigner for the abolition of slavery.	
9	Abolition in the UK. The campaign which resulted in the Brit-	
	ish government abolishing the slave trade in 1807 and ending	
	slavery in the British empire in 1833.	