

# COLONIAL TIMES: SOCIAL CLASSES AND CLOTHES

A) Drag the names under the corresponding picture.



NATIVE

AFRICAN SLAVE

SPANISH

CREOLE

B) Read the text and choose the correct word. Look at the pictures in A and check if they match the words you wrote.

In the colony, there were differences between social classes so the rights of lower classes were not respected. Many \_\_\_\_\_ were brought by ship in inhuman conditions and many of them died during the voyage. Here, they were sold in the market.

Slaves were not free and their masters fed them and gave them clothes. Poorly dressed in jackets and trousers, they generally went barefoot or wore sandals made of skin. Sometimes, they got their masters' old clothes which looked ridiculous on them because they were too big or too long. They generally wore these clothes on Sundays.

The \_\_\_\_\_ belonged to another social class. They worked in the mines doing forced labour called *mita*. Besides, those who cultivated the land and raised cattle were under the control of a Spanish *encomendero*, who evangelized them. In this system, known as *encomienda*, the *encomenderos* could get products such as wheat, corn, chicken or labour from the natives they protected. Like slaves, the natives did not have rights. For example, they were not allowed to ride horses. They wore a loincloth or a long shirt. They were generally

barefoot or wore rudimentary shoes made of skin. Their hair was long and they wore accessories such as hairbands, necklaces and bracelets.

\_\_\_\_\_ were descendants of Spanish settlers in South America. Some of them were merchants; others were professionals or related to the Church. Their clothes were similar to those worn by the Spanish.

The \_\_\_\_\_ formed the upper social class. They regularly organized parties and meetings. Women made their own dresses out of European cloth and their slaves helped to sew them. They also wore petticoats, ornamental combs, and had fans and parasols to protect themselves from the sun. Men wore jackets, shirts, tight trousers, top hats and used canes.

**C) Read the text again and write the words in the right column.**

SHIPS – CULTIVATED THE LAND – NO RIGHTS – MASTERS – EUROPE – MARKET PARTIES – SERVANTS – MINES – UPPER SOCIAL CLASS – NOT FREE – RAISED CATTLE
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African slave	Native	Spanish

**D) Find a word in the text that means:**

- 1) *Without shoes on your feet: **b**\_\_\_\_\_*
- 2) *An object used, especially by women, to provide shade from the sun:  
**p**\_\_\_\_\_*
- 3) *And object which you can wave to make the air cooler: **f**\_\_\_\_\_*
- 4) *Something used for helping somebody walk: **c**\_\_\_\_\_*
- 5) *An object used by women to keep their hair back or for decoration:  
**c**\_\_\_\_\_*