

The Africans

The African people came to The Bahamas from **Africa**. They did not want to come. Cruel people took them away forcefully from their home. Their hands and ankles were chained. They were put in boats. Many Africans died on the long journey to our islands. When the Africans arrived, they were auctioned off at **Vendue House** in New Providence and then were made **slaves to work** on the plantations. The Africans had to do all the hard work. They were beaten or killed if they refused. They had to work all day, and they were never paid.

The slaves from West and Central Africa lived and worked on large farms called **plantations**. Much later, other Africans on their way to Cuba were freed from slavery by English ships. They also came to The Bahamas.

The people from West and Central Africa brought with them many **traditions** or things that they did while in Africa.

- One thing was their way of **preparing food**. From Nigeria they brought **dodo (fried plantains)** and from Gambia they brought **superkanj (okra soup)**.
- Another was saving money by **Asue**.

- Our **Junkanoo** also is something the Africans brought with them. This is a West African Tradition. The costumes and musical instruments used in Junkanoo are similar to those used in celebration in West and Central Africa.

The slaves had no freedom and had to do what their masters told them to do. The Africans in The Bahamas struggled to free themselves. After many years, people from many different nations around the world realize that slavery was wrong. These people were called **abolitionist**. They won their freedom in **1834**. It was called **emancipation**. We remember this day the first **Monday in August** every year.

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Africans

1. The African people came from

San Salvador

Africa

2. The people who took the Africans away from their homes were

cruel

peaceful

3. The Africans were made _____ when they arrived.

guest

slaves

4. They were _____ if they did not work.

sent home

beaten

5. Three traditions the Africans brought with them were

_____ the pots, clothes, and houses

_____ boats, cats and preparing food

_____ preparing their food, Junkanoo, Asue

6. The Africans were made free in

_____ 1992

_____ 1934

_____ 1834

7. The day the Africans were freed is called

Christmas

Heroes Day

Emancipation Day

8. We celebrate Emancipation Day

9. The slaves from West and Central Africa lived and worked on large farms called

10. What is another name for plantains? _____

11. What is the name of the people who help people who are not treated fairly?

