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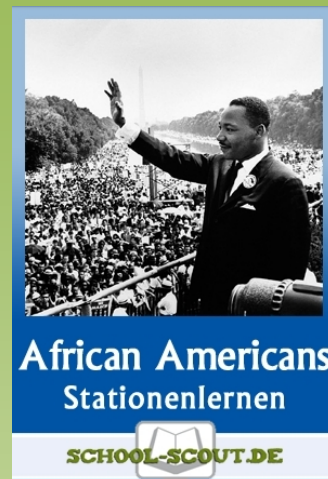
Unterrichtsmaterialien in digitaler und in gedruckter Form

Auszug aus:

Stationenlernen African Americans in the USA

Das komplette Material finden Sie hier:

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Station Pass: African Americans in the United States

Name: _____

Station	Priority	Name	Done	Corrected	Open Questions
1	mandatory	Slavery in the Colonial Era			
2	optional	African Americans in the Revolutionary and Civil War			
3	mandatory	Segregation and Oppression			
4	mandatory	The Civil Rights Movement			
5	choice A	African American Music			
6	choice A	African American Literature			
7	choice A	African American Vernacular			
8	choice A	The African American Dream			
9	choice B	Education and Poverty			
10	choice B	Racism			
11	choice-B	May 2020: George Floyd			
12	choice B	Police Brutality and Race Riots			
13	choice B	Black Lives Matter			
14	choice C	Mass Incarceration			
15	choice C	Modern Slavery			
16	choice C	African Americans and the Trump Administration			
17	optional	African Americans in the USA – Crossword Puzzle			

Station 1: Slavery in the colonial era

Many African Americans are descendants of people who were enslaved by European traders and sold to settlers on the North American continent. Read the text below to find out more about the origins of slavery in the United States.



TASK:

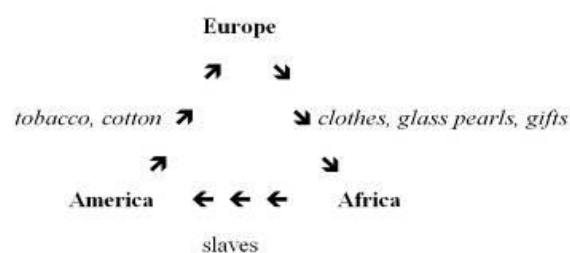
1. Read the text below and answer the following question: Which rights did slaves have in America?

SLAVERY IN AMERICA

Slavery had its origin in the ancient Near East about 2,600 years ago. There were several reasons why people became slaves. Some of the most important ones were kidnapping, serfdom, abandonment and debts. Slaves had absolutely no rights. They were treated like goods and had to obey their owner's orders. If slaves became parents, their children were automatically regarded as the owner's property as well. This meant they were slaves from birth. It was not unusual for these children to be separated from their parents and sold to other slave owners.

Shortly after Christopher Columbus's discovery of America, slaves were transported from Africa to the newly discovered continent. Between 1520 and 1850 an estimated number of 10 million African slaves were brought to America. The slavery business was a lucrative deal for the three involved continents, namely America, Europe and Africa. Europe sold clothes, glass pearls and metallic goods to African kings who presented European traders with people of their own tribes in exchange. The sold Africans were enslaved by the Europeans and worked in the cotton and tobacco fields of the American colonies. Cotton and tobacco were then brought to Europe from America. This chain of trade is referred to as the "transatlantic triangular trade".

THE TRIANGULAR TRADE



2. Fill in the gaps in the text below with the words from the box. (EA)

critical ♦ illegal ♦ Union ♦ Lincoln ♦ Congress ♦ Civil War ♦ four million ♦ vote ♦ American citizens ♦ economy ♦ divided ♦ import ♦ property ♦ inferior ♦ Missouri

On January 1st, 1808, the _____ made an attempt to prevent the ongoing _____ of slaves by declaring it _____. However, this was ignored by the supporters of slavery, and consequently, the question of slavery _____ the country. The whole South approved of it; and one of the most important reasons for this approval was that the Southern _____ depended on slavery. The North, in contrast to the South, had a _____ attitude towards slavery. In 1820, slavery was proclaimed to be illegal in all states north of the river _____.

_____ slaves lived in the United States of America in 1865. US President Abraham _____ proclaimed that no human being should be regarded as someone else's _____ and consequently wanted to abolish slavery. As a result, eleven "slave states" left the _____. The question of slavery was thus one of the main reasons for the _____. Once the North had defeated the South, slaves were freed throughout the nation. Three years later, in 1868, they officially became _____. However, they were still regarded as being _____ to white people by a part of the American population, and it was still impossible for the new citizens to _____ in the South.

3. Discuss these quotes with a neighbor!¹

¹ <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/f/frederickd134373.html>;
<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/a/abrahamlin143183.html>

death, the white people looked and acted, as I thought, in so savage a manner; for I had never seen among any people such instances of brutal cruelty; and this not only shewn towards us blacks, but also to some of the whites themselves.

One white man in particular I saw, when we were permitted to be on deck, flogged so unmercifully with a large rope near the foremast, that he died in consequence of it; and they tossed him over the side as they would have done a brute. This made me fear these people the more; and I expected nothing less than to be treated in the same manner. [...] At last, when the ship we were in had got in all her cargo, they made ready with many fearful noises, and we were all put under deck, so that we could not see how they managed the vessel. But this disappointment was the least of my sorrows. The stench of the hold while we were on the coast was so intolerably loathsome, that it was dangerous to remain there for any time, and some of us had been permitted to stay on the deck for the fresh air; but now that the whole ship's cargo were confined together, it became absolutely pestilential. The closeness of the place, and the heat of the climate, added to the number in the ship, which was so crowded that each had scarcely room to turn himself, almost suffocated us. This produced copious perspiration, so that the air soon became unfit for respiration from a variety of loathsome smells, and brought on a sickness among the slaves, of which many died, thus falling victim to the improvident avarice, as I may call it, of their purchasers. This wretched situation was again aggravated by the galling of the chains, now become insupportable; and the filth of the necessary tubs, into which the children often fell and were almost suffocated. The shrieks of the women, and the groans of the dying rendered the whole a scene of horror almost inconceivable. Happily perhaps for myself, I was soon reduced so low here that it was thought necessary to keep me almost always on deck; and due to my extreme youth I was not put in fetters. [...]

One day, when we had a smooth sea and moderate wind, two of my wearied countrymen who were chained together (I was near them at the time), preferring death to such a life of misery, somehow made through the nettings and jumped into the sea: immediately another quite dejected fellow, who, on account of his illness, was suffered to be out of irons, also followed their example; and I believe many more would very soon have done the same if they had not been prevented by the ship's crew, who were instantly alarmed. [...] However two of the wretches were drowned, but they got the other, and afterwards flogged him unmercifully for thus attempting to prefer death to slavery. In this manner we continued to undergo more hardships than I can now relate, hardships which are inseparable from this accursed trade.[...] At last we came in sight of the island of Barbados, at which the whites on board gave a great shout, and made many signs of joy to us. We did not know what to think of this; but as the vessel drew nearer we plainly saw the harbour, and other ships of different kinds and sizes; and we soon anchored amongst them off Bridge Town.

Station 5: African American music

Even after the Civil Rights movement, African Americans still had to face many problems. Many people tried to express their feelings through music. African American music has a long history, from work songs that were sung on the plantations, to gospel music to modern rap and hip-hop. Learn more about African American music in the following tasks.

TASK

1. Read the lyrics to the following song by rapper Ice Cube and listen to the song on YouTube.
2. What problems does Ice Cube address with the song "Black Korea"?
3. Imagine a conflict between an African American and an Asian shop owner. Write down a dialogue between the two. Concentrate on the racial differences and let them find a solution.

Ice Cube: "Black Korea"⁵

*Every time I want to go get a fucking brew
I gotta go down to the store with the two
Oriental one-penny-counting motherfuckers;
They make a nigger mad enough to cause a little ruckus.
Thinking every brother in the world's out to take,
So they watch every damn move that I make.
They hope I don't pull out a Gat, try to rob
Their funky little store but, bitch, I got a job.*

*So don't follow me up and down your market
Or your little chop suey ass will be a target
Of a nationwide boycott.
Juice with the people, that's what the boy got.
So pay respect to the black fist
Or we'll burn your store right down to a crisp.
And then we'll see ya...*



Ice Cube on August 19th, 2006
(commons.wikimedia.org)

'Cause you can't turn the ghetto into black Korea.

4. Choose one of the following types of music and find out more about it on the internet.

Blues, gospel, jazz, soul, hip hop, rap

⁵ http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~yisei/issues/spring_92/ys92_6.html

Station 8: The African American Dream

1. Read the two quotes and define the term “American Dream”.⁶

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

(Declaration of Independence, 1776)

The American dream is „that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement.

(James Truslow Adams, 1931)

2. Discuss whether the American Dream existed for African Americans at the time of the James Truslow Adams.

⁶ [www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/decla 1](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/decla1); https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Truslow_Adams

3. Read the following text about the Black Lives Matter Movement and find one or two key words to summarize each paragraph. Write the key words in the margin on the right.

11 Major Misconceptions About the Black Lives Matter Movement

Source: <http://blacklivesmatter.com/11-major-misconceptions-about-the-black-lives-matter-movement/>

“1. The movement doesn’t care about black-on-black crime. The idea that black-on-black crime is not a significant political conversation among black people is patently false. In Chicago, long maligned for its high rates of intraracial murder, members of the community created the Violence Interrupters to disrupt violent altercations before they escalate. However, those who insist on talking about black-on-black crime frequently fail to acknowledge that most crime is intraracial. Ninety-three percent of black murder victims are killed by other black people. Eighty-four percent of white murder victims are killed by other white people. The continued focus on black-on-black crime is a diversionary tactic, whose goal is to suggest that black people don’t have the right to be outraged about police violence in vulnerable black communities, because those communities have a crime problem. The Black Lives Matter movement acknowledges the crime problem, but it refuses to locate that crime problem as a problem of black pathology. Black people are not inherently more violent or more prone to crime than other groups. But black people are disproportionately poorer, more likely to be targeted by police and arrested, and more likely to attend poor or failing schools. All of these social indicators place one at greater risk for being either a victim or a perpetrator of violent crime. To reduce violent crime, we must fight to change systems, rather than demonizing people.

[...]

6. The black church has no role to play. Many know that the black church was central to the civil rights movement, as many black male preachers became prominent civil rights leaders. This current movement has a very different relationship to the church than movements past. Black churches and black preachers in Ferguson have been on the ground helping since the early days after Michael Brown’s death. But protesters patently reject any conservative theology about keeping the peace, praying copiously, or turning the other cheek. [...]

[...]



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