

Equiano Prompt

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Equiano Writing Prompt

**Background:** In 1619, the first Africans arrived in Jamestown. Some were indentured servants but by 1669 slavery became a law. As the colonies grew, the desire for enslaved laborers increased. By 1750, there were more enslaved Africans in Virginia than any other racial group. These enslaved Africans were part of an economic system, the Triangle of Trade, which allowed the colonies to sell their products in exchange for laborers.

#### Question:

*What does Equiano's writings tell about the experience of Africans as part of the Triangle of Trade?*

*Why is Equiano included in the study of American history?*

**Expectations:** The best papers will include:

- Two paragraphs
- Topic sentences that answer each questions
- At least three examples of historical evidence of support in each paragraph
- An analysis that explains the importance of Equiano writing.
- A concluding sentence that restates your topic sentence.
- Proofreading for spelling and grammar

For teachers: An example of analysis

*The life of Equiano shows \_\_\_\_\_*  
*Equiano's writing was important because \_\_\_\_\_*  
*Equiano is significant because \_\_\_\_\_*