

Is slavery a thing of the past?

Grammar: past simple and present simple passives

Read the sentences from each text and use the verbs in the box to make past simple or present simple passives.

abolish build buy exchange sell

1. Most ancient cultures had slaves, people who _____ and sold and forced to work without being paid.
2. The Great Pyramids in Egypt _____ with slave labour.
3. First, the British traders took goods to Africa, where these goods _____ for slaves.
4. Finally, the products that the slaves had grown _____ in England.
5. After a huge campaign the slave trade _____ in 1807.

grow pay produce

6. Many people think that cotton ___ no longer _____ using slaves.
7. It is not just the way that cotton _____ which can involve slavery.
8. Some workers _____ as little as 50 cents an hour.

Write 2-3 sentences of your own about what you read, using passives.

Speaking

Discuss the following questions in small groups.

- List at least 3 things that you learned about slavery in the lesson.
- Looking back at your answers to the questions on worksheet 1, would you now change anything you said?