

Ap world history
sugar trade dbq
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The sugar trade was driven by its easy accessibility of slaves, land, and the sugar itself. Due to these characteristics the sugar trade flourished greatly through much of the world. Slaves were a main reason for the increase in sugar crops. The trading of slaves was already increasing at the time and therefore made obtaining them even easier. Document 10 show the correlation between slave population and sugar produced. It demonstrates how an increase in slaves produced an increase in sugar. Slaves provided a simple and easy way to maintain the sugar crops. Document 11 lists items that English merchants used to purchase slaves.

The list includes ordinary things such as powder, toys, and brass pans that could be bought in markets. Merchants could buy these slaves with cheap objects and not have to give them anything from their own possession. An additional document, such as a letter from a slave on how he was paid to work would verify the fact that these objects were used. Furthermore, slaves were well handled by their owners and performed the tasks demanded.

Document 8 shows two pictures, one of a boiling-house and one of a field, with slaves working while the masters dictate them.

This document, however, could be biased in favor of the masters and not show how miserable or angry the slaves were with their owners. Slaves were obviously a great factor in the sugar trade considering the price of them rose as the sugar trade progressed. Document 9, which shows the price of West African and British Caribbean slaves in the years 1748 and 1768, proves this statement. This all proves that slaves were an important factor and allowed sugar crops to be easily and cheaply made. Land to grow the sugar crops was also easily accessible during the time of the sugar trade.

Document 1 shows a map of the Caribbean and indicates who owned each piece of land at the time. Before the sugar trade, Europeans hadn't utilized this land. This made it easy to acquire and use once sugar crops were introduced. An additional map showing the areas used for sugar crops would indicate just how much of the Caribbean was used for plantations. The land also allowed plenty of room to build and house the necessary object for a plantation. Document 6 proves this point by listing all the items needed for a plantation, including 500 acres of land, and more than 300 slaves and 150 cattle.

Furthermore, the land in the Caribbean was the ideal location to grow sugar crops. Document 2 shows two charts, one with the ideal climate for sugar production and the other shows the climate of two Caribbean islands. The characteristics of each chart match well and prove that the Caribbean islands would produce an ample amount of sugar. This document could prove to be a bit false though because the information is derived from 1980 and the climate might have been different 200 years ago. Also, this far way land allowed owners of the plantations to perform their business easily by having other people do the work for them.

Document 7 lists four of the largest plantation owners of the Caribbean. In each description it states that the owners were absentees, meaning they indeed performed their business from England rather than at the site. The lands of the Caribbean allowed sugar crops to be easily planted and provided a place to build plantations without disrupting home ground. Finally, the demand of sugar caused sales to flourish and be easily sold from markets. Document 3 states that sugar was at such a high demand and that once you <https://assignbuster.com/ap-world-history-sugar-trade-dbq-flashcard/>

tasted it, you desired it. This shows just how much of an effect sugar had on people.

An additional statement from a person who experienced this sensation of sugar would verify the effect it had on people. Document 4 states that sugar became even more demanded because of imports such as tea, coffee, and chocolate. The high demand of sugar is demonstrated in document 10, which shows a chart of the British population, sugar imports, and annual consumption. The numbers in this chart increase dramatically over the course of 70 years. However, the document was produced in 1990 and might not have the correct data for population and production numbers.

Furthermore, document 12, which states how England set up a mercantile system to gain more money, shows that sugar was at such a demand that Britain set up these laws to expand their profits even more. All these documents show that the high demand of sugar caused the trade of it to increase exponentially. All in all, the sugar trade was able to flourish because of the easy accessibility of slaves, land, and demand from people. By being able to obtain these three key elements, the sugar trade increased throughout the world and provided a major wealth gain for many societies.