



### Text Dependent Questions for

## The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano

1. An 11-year-old African boy, Olaudah Equiano has been captured by slave traders. In the first paragraph of Equiano's account, the reader learns that Olaudah believes he will be killed once he is placed aboard the slave ship. What details from lines 1-8 does Equiano present that led him to this conclusion?
2. Reread lines 1-16. What details in this passage led Equiano to believe that the white men were "bad spirits?"
3. In lines 72-90, what details does Equiano use to describe conditions in the hold of the ship? What kind of image is created by these details? Use evidence from the passage to support your answer.
4. Which of Equiano's details do you find to be the most powerful? Cite specific lines or paragraphs within the text and explain why that part is so powerful.
5. In what ways is this selection persuasive? Who is Equiano's intended audience? What is the persuasive point that Equiano is trying to get across. Cite text evidence to support your answer.
6. Who is Equiano's audience? Cite at least two examples of Equiano's diction that are specifically for this audience. Then explain how these examples prove both his purpose and his audience.
7. What is Equiano's tone? Cite at least two text examples that reveal this tone. How does Equiano's tone relate to his purpose?