Viewing Guide

Slavery and the Making of America
“Episode 1: The Downward Spiral”

1. What are the various ways that Africans would end up in North America?

2. Explain the term Atlantic Creole.

3. Why was life especially difficult for the first slaves?

4. Explain the concept of half freedom given to slaves of the Dutch West India Company.

5. Explain the importance of slaves and indentured servants in the British colonies.

6. In what ways did the status and treatment of the black slaves grow worse over time?

7. Describe how the slave trading became an international industry.

8. In what ways were slaves treated as property rather than as human beings?

9. In what ways did slaves resist bondage, and how did whites respond?

10. Summarize the significance of the Stono rebellion.