

David Livingstone: Victorian

An educational worksheet for children aged 9-13 published by

LivingstoneOnline.org

Written to Roderick Murchison from Poonah-Malta in 1864

My Dear Sir Roderick,

We arrived at Bombay on the 13th after a passage of forty four days from Zanzibar, and very thankful I feel to be again on solid ground. ..We went along beautifully till we got past the Line then fell into a calm region which Captain Maury places south of the Equator. Altogether we had 24 1/2 days calm, the sea as smooth as glass, and as we had but one stoker with us we could not steam more than nine or ten hours at a time...

I came here to sell the steamer but with that comes the idea of giving up Africa before accomplishing something against the slave trade. The thought of it makes me actually feel as if I could not lie in my grave in peace with all the evils I know going on. That which makes it doubly galling is the fact that while Lord Palmerston's policy has, to a very gratifying extent, been successful on the West Coast - The same measures have been in operation here - the same expense and same dangers incurred - the same heroic services performed by H M cruizers on this coast, and all has been rendered ineffectual by dirty dribble of the Portuguese convict population, who by no means represent either the best or half best of the statesmen of Lisbon. The country is to be shut up now more closely than ever.

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Experiences and Outcomes:

Literacy and English

Students can practice deep reading and textual analysis to explore Livingstone's letters.

History

Students can begin to explore Victorian culture and the influence of Britain on certain African countries in the nineteenth century.

Suggested Questions:

Who was the Captain of the ship David was on?

David writes that there was no wind at sea, what kind of power did they use instead?

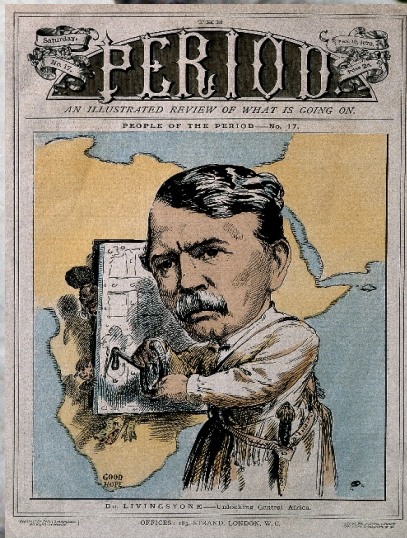
The British government used Navy ships to blockade the seas around certain African ports, what trade were they trying to stop? Were they successful?

Further Reading:

What is David doing on the magazine cover below? What does this tell us about what David was trying to do in Africa?

Click on the image, or the link below, to explore other great images held by The Wellcome Trust.

<http://wellcomeimages.org>



This educational resource was developed by Kate Simpson and Megan Ward, who are staff of *Livingstone Online* (livingstoneonline.org). *Livingstone Online* is the leading site for learning more about the life and writings of David Livingstone. Visit our site to discover an array of images and texts that supplement the educational material found in this worksheet.

Image courtesy of the Wellcome Library, London

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