

“Roots” Review Questions

Part 1

1. Why is the captain annoyed by the question about the safety of his cargo?
2. Mr. Carrington mentions that the cargo is “loose pack” and is pleased that so little has been damaged – what is it about his demeanor that annoys the captain?
3. What will happen to the captain and his ship next? How does the captain react to this?
4. What does the captain mean by his “enslavement”?

Part 2

5. What happened to Kunta Kinte on the ship? How is the merchant proposing to fix it?
6. What do they do to the “wild-eyed ones” and the “dull ones”? Why might they do this?
7. What event is going on in conjunction with the auction?
8. What are the potential buyers describing as the benefit of slaves over indentured servants?
9. What is the intention of many of the buyers in regards to the female slaves?
10. How does the slave Fiddler react to Kunta Kinte after he’s been bought?