

Indentured Servitude - T-Charts for Recording Thoughts on Primary Sources

- On one side, list the benefits of being an indentured servant. On the other side, list the disadvantages of being an indentured servant.

<i>Benefits of Being an Indentured Servant</i>	<i>Disadvantages of Being an Indentured Servant</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cost of trip on ship (passage) to the colonies is paid for ● Housing and Food provided ● Only for limited amount of time ● Learn a skill or trade ● It is a choice - not forced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No liberty - can't go where you want to or do what you want to ● No gambling ● No going to taverns (restaurants), ale houses (bars), play houses (theaters) ● No getting married or fooling around ● Could not profit from your skill or knowledge of the trade during the time of indenture ● Are always in the complay of your master ● Must obey your master ● Cannot break contract - quit

- On one side list some ways being an indentured servant was like being a slave. On the other side, list ways being an indentured servant was different than being a slave.

Ways Being an Indentured Servant was <i>Like</i> Being a Slave	Ways Being an Indentured Servant was <i>Different</i> Than Being a Slave
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No liberty - can't choose where to go or what to do ● Punished if run away ● Must work ● Must obey master ● Can't marry ● Can't profit from own labor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indentured servants have choice - not auctioned like slave ● Indentured servants have harsher punishments than other whites for crimes but are not whipped ● Indentured servants are not chained ● Indentured servants are not a single race ● Indentured servants often learn a skill ● Indentured servitude is only for a limited amount of time ● Description of clothing of indentured servants seems to be better than that of slaves

Why might indentured servitude and slavery existed at the same time in many colonies?

- the supply of labor (workers) available and/or the demand for workers (labor)
 - does not change all at once
 - does not change for all employers at the same time
- Type of work might affect the choice
 - Some employers who need high skilled workers might still see indentured servitude as the best method.
 - Employers who need physical farm labor on plantations as more profitable.
- Some employers may believe slavery is morally acceptable while others think it is morally wrong.
 - Members of the Quaker religion and the baptist religion believed all humans were equal

- **Would have rejected slavery**
 - **But others in the same colony of different faiths might have accepted slavery**
- **The war in Europe that made so many unable to find work there may have ended**
 - **Fewer workers want to come to the colonies**
 - **Costs of getting indentured servants rises**
 - **Employers need to begin to turn to slaves as indentured servants to expensive, make earning a profit too low**