

Conflicting Viewpoints Tracker

Authors' Viewpoint and Text Evidence	Conflicting Viewpoint and Text Evidence	How do the authors respond to the conflicting evidence?
<p>The idea that ancient people used sugar as a spice to hide rotting meat is a myth.</p> <p>“Any lord who could afford spices (which were expensive) could easily get fresh meat or fish (which were readily available); and when a cook happened to be stuck with rancid food, the spices he had available could not hide the awful smell or taste.” (21)</p>	<p>Ancient people used sugar as a spice to hide rotting meat.</p> <p>“Even though one book after another repeats this myth, the popularity of spices had nothing to do with disguising the taste of meat or fish that had gone bad.” (19-21)</p>	<p>The authors respond to this conflicting evidence by directly calling it a “myth” and providing two concrete reasons for why the conflicting viewpoint is incorrect: 1. Any one who could afford sugar at the time could have also afford fresh meat and 2. The use of sugar would not have covered the smell and taste of rotting meat.</p>

<p>The sugar trade involved a complicated set of connections that involved countries and goods all over the world.</p> <p>“So to get the fabrics that would buy the slaves that could be sold for sugar for the English to put into their tea, the Spanish shipped silver to the Philippines, and the French, English, and Dutch sailed east to India. What we call a triangle was really as round as the globe.” (37)</p>	<p>The dominant trade framework that involved sugar was a “triangle trade”.</p> <p>“Ships set out from Europe carrying fabrics, clothes, and simple manufactured goods to Africa, where they sold their cargoes and bought people. The enslaved people were shipped across the Atlantic to the islands, where they were sold for sugar. Then the ships brought sugar to North America, to be sold or turned into rum - which the captains brought back to Europe.” (37)</p>	<p>The authors directly call the conflicting viewpoint “misleading” and provide evidence of a much more complicated trading pattern. The authors walk the reader step by step through an example of this trade pattern to show how it involved many different countries and goods, and was not a perfect “triangle.”</p>
<p>Slave life was brutal and dangerous and the slaves were treated as objects.</p> <p>“This drawing of a slave ‘house’ in Jamaica in 1823 appeared in a book defending slavery, so the artist made the scene look as clean, eat, and calm as possible.” (59)</p>	<p>Slaves lived in comfortable homes and were well-provided for in exchange for their work.</p> <p>The drawing depicts a large, enclosed dwelling that appears to be well built. The slaves have a hammock for sleeping, a chair and table for sitting, and tools to cook. (59)</p>	<p>The authors recognize that there are perspectives out there that viewed slave life in a positive way, and the others include this drawing as a means of conveying that to the reader. The readers then show they disagree with this depiction by the use of quotation marks around the word “house” in the caption.</p>
