Slaves' Work

1. In all parts of the **ancient** world there were slaves.
2. It was quite normal that men and women were **owned** by other people.
3. A lot of Roman slaves worked on rich Romans' **estates**.
4. They sometimes were kept **chained** together.
5. A **bailiff** would control the slaves' work and **punish** them.
6. **House-slaves** were **better off**.
7. Shopkeepers and **craftsmen** often had one or two slaves, as **labourers**.
8. Slaves were **expensive to buy**.
9. And you had to **feed** and **clothe** them.

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Slaves and the law

10. The law said that slaves **belonged to** their masters just like **cattle** (cow/bull) or sheep.
11. For a punishment slaves could be **flogged** or sent to work in the fields.
12. Until AD 120 they could even be **put to death.**
13. If a slave killed his master, all other slaves had to be killed: the law said that they should have stopped the **murderer**.
14. Slaves could not **own** money or anything else.
15. But some slaves got **tips** (a little money) from their masters.
16. Slaves who were **skilled** craftsmen could earn **a great deal**.
17. So some slaves were able to save enough money to buy their **freedom**.

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Into and out of slavery

18. After their wars the Romans brought home **prisoners** who became slaves.
19. For some people slavery was **punishment** for a **crime**.
20. Those **sentenced** to slavery were slaves for life.
21. Some men and women were **born** as slaves – if your mother was a slave, you were a slave.
22. From time to time there were slave **revolts**.
23. In 73 BC, Spartacus led huge armies of **runaway** slaves in Sicily and southern Italy.
24. But the revolt was **crushed** by the Romans and thousands of slaves were **crucified** along the road to Rome.
25. Some masters gave **faithful** slaves their freedom.
26. They were then called a **freedman** or a **freedwoman**.
27. Some of them became **merchants** and **grew rich** and sometimes bought slaves themselves.
28. When slaves were allowed to have wives, this made them more **loyal** to the farm and to the **slaveholder**.

Fact or Opinion?

29. A **fact** is something which is or was true.
30. An **opinion** is what someone thinks or thought.