Resource Sheet #8

Lost in Space

An alien spacecraft has seized a number of people from different parts of the world. You are one of them. You find yourself locked in a cabin along with a Frenchman, a Japanese, a Chinese, an Indian, and an Egyptian. No one else speaks English. The aliens speak to you only in their own language. They give you their own food, which looks and tastes peculiar to you. When you arrive at the alien's planet, (you have no idea where it is, only that it is a long way from Earth) they put you up in front of a large mass of aliens. After what seems like a debate, an alien takes you to his home. The alien gives you orders in his own language and expects you to guess what they mean. The work you do for the alien is long and tedious. Everything on the planet is very different from the surroundings and way of life you are used to on Earth.

1. What are the greatest fears you would have in this situation?

2. Would you try to escape? Why or why not.

3. In what ways can you compare this imaginary situation to the real situations (auction, working, living, and recreational conditions) in which Africans faced when they came to America as slaves?