

# Specific Examples of Exploitation of Natural Resources

II. Specific examples of exploitation of natural resources

a. "[Paradox of Plenty](#)": Slavery, Ivory, Rubber, Minerals, and Oil

-Interactive New York Times piece

-Gives students an introduction to the resources of Africa.

b. "[The Business of War in Africa](#)"

-Op-Ed piece from 1999 about how Western purchase of natural resources is funding African wars

-Using the examples supplied in these two articles ask students to identify items from their everyday life which may have originated in Africa. This activity illustrates to them how closely tied to Africa the United States is.

-This is an opinion piece, a final question for students can be if they agree with the author's argument knowing what they've learned so far