Is slavery a thing of the past?

Grammar: past simple and present simple passives

Read the sentences from each text and use the verbs in the box to make past simple or present simple passives.

abolish   build   buy   exchange   sell

grow   pay   produce

1. Most ancient cultures had slaves, people who ________ and sold and forced to work without being paid.
2. The Great Pyramids in Egypt ________ with slave labour.
3. First, the British traders took goods to Africa, where these goods ________ for slaves.
4. Finally, the products that the slaves had grown ________ in England.
5. After a huge campaign the slave trade ________ in 1807.

6. Many people think that cotton __ no longer _____ using slaves.
7. It is not just the way that cotton ________ which can involve slavery.
8. Some workers ________ as little as 50 cents an hour.

Write 2-3 sentences of your own about what you read, using passives.

Speaking

Discuss the following questions in small groups.
• List at least 3 things that you learned about slavery in the lesson.
• Looking back at your answers to the questions on worksheet 1, would you now change anything you said?