

GUIDED READING

A Place Called Mississippi

Chapter 5: Antebellum Mississippi

Section 1 Heartland of the Cotton Kingdom

Directions: Use the information from pages 126 - 132 to complete the following.

1. Before the Civil War, southerners referred to their _____ and _____ traditions as "the southern way of life."
2. To most white Mississippians, that way of life meant a _____ (a large agricultural estate) with its wealth and social prestige.
3. They believed the plantation system was the highest form of civilization developed and this ideal was the motivation that led many Mississippians to _____.
4. In 1793, _____ invented the _____, a simple and inexpensive machine that mechanically _____ cotton _____ and cotton _____.
5. The major value of the mechanical _____ separating lint from seed was the fact that _____ could do the work of _____ hands.
6. The _____ who had been performing that slow and tedious job were _____ to work in the fields _____ more _____.
7. With an inexpensive method of ginning available, the only thing necessary to make cotton the state's major cash crop was the _____ of a type of _____ that would _____ in Mississippi.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

8. The _____ - _____ Gulf Seed (developed by Dr. Rush Nutt) was ideally suited for Mississippi's climate.
9. Within a few years, _____ became the crown prince of Mississippi's agricultural _____ by replacing tobacco, indigo, and _____ (a fiber used for making rope) as the state's _____.
10. By the 1850s the magical white fiber had become _____ Cotton, and Mississippi — the _____ cotton-producing _____ in the nation --- had become the _____ of the Cotton Kingdom.
11. The _____ system and the cotton economy _____ almost every aspect of _____ in antebellum Mississippi.
12. _____ terms were determined by _____ times.
13. The _____ were a small minority of Mississippi's antebellum population, but they _____ the state _____ and _____.
14. The small planters _____ between twenty and fifty _____ and farmed between two hundred and five hundred _____.
15. Many of the small planters were _____, who saw the _____ movement as a _____ to their hopes and dreams of becoming _____ landowners.
16. The largest group of _____ in Mississippi were the _____ farmers who owned fewer than twenty slaves and farmed less than two hundred acres.
17. Because _____ required little formal _____, there was practically _____ demand for a public _____ system.

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

18. The planter class hired _____ (private teachers) for their children and sent them to colleges in the Northeast or in Europe.

19. In antebellum Mississippi, there were several _____ for _____, but there were no state-supported colleges for women.

20. The prevailing _____ toward _____ in the Cotton Kingdom was that a woman's place was in the _____ to _____ the needs of her husband and children.

21. There were _____ public or private _____ [schools] in antebellum Mississippi that provided _____ to its _____ population or to _____ blacks.