

## Chapter 11

# Slavery and the Old South, 1800-1860

### Practice Test

1. All of the following factors made the Lower South ideal for growing cotton EXCEPT:
  - A) long growing season.
  - B) white southerners' willingness to work the land.
  - C) navigable rivers.
  - D) untapped fertility.
2. Before 1800, slavery was associated with all of the following cash crops EXCEPT
  - A) rice.
  - B) sugar.
  - C) tobacco.
  - D) long-staple cotton.
3. By the late 1700's, a long-range disadvantage of cultivating tobacco was
  - A) great numbers of Americans and Europeans no longer smoked tobacco.
  - B) the American government stopped the exportation of tobacco.
  - C) the quality of American tobacco had become harsh and dry-tasting.
  - D) the soil of the Upper South had become depleted of vital nutrients.
4. The use of widescale slavery in the Lower South was based on the economic production of
  - A) rice.
  - B) short-staple cotton.
  - C) tobacco.
  - D) long-staple cotton.
5. All of the following states were in the heart of the *cotton kingdom* EXCEPT
  - A) Texas.
  - B) Mississippi.
  - C) South Carolina.
  - D) Virginia.
6. What percentage of the white southern population belonged to the plantation-owning class?
  - A) <5%
  - B) >12%
  - C) <20%
  - D) >32%

7. The most-valued slaves in the slave market of 1815-1850 were male field hands and
- A) older males who had years of experience working in cotton fields of the Lower South.
  - B) males who possessed the skills of an artisan such as carpentry and engraving.
  - C) older females who acted as matriarchs within slave communities.
  - D) females of child-bearing age as a way of increasing the slave population.
8. In 1808, the United States Congress
- A) ended the African slave trade.
  - B) passed national slave codes.
  - C) required that slaves be Christians.
  - D) classified slaves as citizens.
9. A particularly cruel aspect of the internal slave trade was that it
- A) required minimum sale prices.
  - B) resulted in the passing of slave codes.
  - C) separated slaves from their families.
  - D) only sold slaves from the Upper South.
10. From 1820-1860 slaves decreased by what percentage of the urban population?
- A) 50% to 30%
  - B) 37% to 15%
  - C) 22% to 10%
  - D) 17% to 12%
11. All of the following statements about urban slavery are true EXCEPT
- A) it increased dramatically in the years leading to the Civil War.
  - B) urban slaves often lived apart from their owners.
  - C) it allowed slaves much more freedom of social interaction.
  - D) urban slaves could sometimes hire out their labor for wages.
12. Southern planters believed that the system of slavery would be weakened by
- A) government subsidies.
  - B) an increase in the internal slave trade.
  - C) the use of short-staple cotton.
  - D) free labor.
13. In 1860, what was the population of the South? What percentage of the nation's manufacturing output did it account for?
- A) 1/2; 60%
  - B) 1/3; 10%
  - C) 1/3; 25%
  - D) 1/3; 15%

14. *Marl* was used in the attempt to
- A) build an industrial base in the South.
  - B) replenish the soil in the Upper South.
  - C) resume an economy based on long-staple cotton.
  - D) pay off debts owed on farm mortgages.
15. By mid-century, the Upper South
- A) accounted for only a small percentage of southern industry.
  - B) no longer expressed the philosophy of state's rights.
  - C) had diversified its economy and relied less on slavery.
  - D) failed to attract immigrants from the North.
16. Which statement about slavery in the Upper South from 1815-1850 is NOT true?
- A) Many small farmers became indifferent or opposed to the institution of slavery.
  - B) The region served as a major exporter of slaves to the Lower South.
  - C) Slavery did significantly increase in any of the region's states except Arkansas.
  - D) Wheat failed as a cash crop because it required intense labor done by more slaves.
17. All of the following statements about *slave codes* are true EXCEPT
- A) they were only enacted in the cotton kingdom of the Lower South.
  - B) they authorized whippings as a common form of punishment.
  - C) most codes did not recognize marriages between slaves as legal.
  - D) many slave states declared it was illegal to teach slaves to read or write.
18. The general health of slaves included all of the following factors EXCEPT
- A) a diet that provided ample calories but poor nutrition.
  - B) a life expectancy that was roughly the same as their white contemporaries.
  - C) chronic suffering of intestinal disorders.
  - D) an extraordinarily high infant mortality rate.
19. The housing of slaves revealed that
- A) owners tried to keep slaves pleased about their living conditions.
  - B) slaves' homes were larger than middle-class dwellings of the North.
  - C) owners, in this area, tried to create an atmosphere of individuality.
  - D) housing was meager and provided little more than basic shelter.
20. Slave owners commonly used all of the following incentives to motivate hard work EXCEPT
- A) the insincere promise of eventual freedom.
  - B) the transfer from field slave to house slave.
  - C) the promises of extra rations or time off.
  - D) the spread of fear through whippings.

21. \_\_\_\_\_ was the one state that recognized slave marriages.
- A) Georgia
  - B) South Carolina
  - C) Texas
  - D) Louisiana
22. Roughly one-third of slave marriages were
- A) recognized as legal by southern law.
  - B) ended by informal consent of the married couple.
  - C) based on a family unit that included a permanent father.
  - D) broken up by sales or forced removals.
23. Slaves followed West African customs in all of the following ways except
- A) keeping alive a rich folklore and oral tradition.
  - B) rejecting extended kinship ties.
  - C) prohibiting marriages between cousins.
  - D) fusing the natural and spiritual worlds in religious beliefs.
24. In West African culture, which art form was linked with ancestry and considered sacred?
- A) pottery making
  - B) dancing
  - C) painting
  - D) written literature
25. It is estimated that what percentage of slaves converted to Christianity?
- A) 10%
  - B) 20%
  - C) 30%
  - D) 40%

## **When?**

1. Which event happened first?
- A) Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin.
  - B) Congress banned the African slave trade.
  - C) Virginia's legislature considered gradual emancipation.
  - D) Texas was admitted as a slave state.
2. In which year did Gabriel Prosser lead a rebellion in Richmond, Virginia?
- A) 1788
  - B) 1800
  - C) 1831
  - D) 1857

3. Which event happened last?
- A) Thomas Dew published his full-scale defense of slavery.
  - B) Nat Turner lead a rebellion in Virginia.
  - C) Florida and Texas were admitted as slave states.
  - D) Congress prohibited the African slave trade.
4. When did Virginia legislature debate and then reject gradual emancipation?
- A) 1816-1819
  - B) 1822-1824
  - C) 1831-1832
  - D) 1837-1845
- 5 Which headline would have appeared in the 1850s?
- A) "Virginia Legislature Heatedly Debates Gradual End to Slavery"
  - B) "Turner's Rebellion Kills 60, Stuns South"
  - C) "Planters Meet to Discuss Possible Split from Union"
  - D) "Jackson Crushes South Over Nullification"

## Where?

### *Matching*

Match the region with the year in which it held the highest percentage of total slaves in the U.S.

Lower South	1800
Upper South, Middle States	1830
Upper South, Border States	1860

## **How and Why?**

1. Name 3 reasons why it was generally more efficient to own a plantation versus a small farm for harvesting cotton.

2. Describe the three-tiered hierarchy of race that existed in the South.

3. Discuss the ways slaves maintained a sense of dignity and self-respect. Were their attempts successful? Why or why not?

4. Describe the responsibilities and lifestyle of women who were married to plantation owners.

5. Which slaves were regarded as most valuable on the slave market?

6. What conditions personified the typical lifestyle of a plantation slave?

7. In what ways did slaves nurture the survival of West African culture as a part of their African-American culture?

8. What profound changes in slavery occurred in the period 1815-1860? What were the causes and consequences of this significant shift?

9. What changes occurred in the southern economy in the first half of the nineteenth century? What factors accounted for these changes?

10. How did southern whites attempt to defend slavery and reconcile it with their Christian beliefs? Why did they feel compelled to express these defenses?