

**AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY**  
**2010 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)**

**Question 3**

Compare and contrast the experience of slaves on tobacco plantations in the early seventeenth-century Chesapeake region with that of slaves on nineteenth-century cotton plantations in the Deep South. What forces transformed the institution of slavery from the early seventeenth century to the nineteenth century?

**The 8–9 Essay**

- Articulates a clear, well-constructed thesis that compares and contrasts the experience of slaves on tobacco plantations in the early seventeenth-century Chesapeake region with that of slaves on nineteenth-century cotton plantations in the Deep South.
- Supports the thesis with substantial, relevant historical information used to analyze the comparisons, contrasts and transforming forces.
- Provides effective analysis of the forces that transformed the institution of American slavery from the early seventeenth century to the nineteenth century.
- Addresses all aspects of the question.
- Is well organized and well written.
- May contain minor errors.

**The 5–7 Essay**

- Contains a thesis, which may be partially developed, that compares and contrasts the experience of slaves on tobacco plantations in the early seventeenth-century Chesapeake region with that of slaves on nineteenth-century cotton plantations in the Deep South.
- Provides ample, relevant historical information used to analyze the comparisons, contrasts and transforming forces.
- Analyzes the forces that transformed the institution of American slavery from the early seventeenth century to the nineteenth century.
- May present an imbalanced treatment of the question.
- Acceptable organization and writing.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the essay.

**The 2–4 Essay**

- Presents a thesis that may be simplistic, confused or undeveloped in comparing and contrasting the experience of slaves on tobacco plantations in the early seventeenth-century Chesapeake region with that of slaves on nineteenth-century cotton plantations in the Deep South.
- Provides little or no relevant historical information used to analyze the comparisons, contrasts and transforming forces of the institution of slavery from the early seventeenth century to the nineteenth century.
- Has little or no analysis of the forces that transformed the institution of slavery from the early seventeenth century to the nineteenth century.
- May address only one aspect of the question.
- May be poorly organized and poorly written.
- May contain major errors.

**The 0–1 Essay**

- Lacks a thesis or restates the question.
- Includes no relevant information.
- Contains no analysis.
- Poorly organized and poorly written.
- May contain numerous errors, both major and minor.

**The — Essay**

- Is completely off topic or blank.

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### Question 3 — Information List

#### Geography of the South

The “Old South” from approximately 1680 to 1780 comprised the “Upper South” and the “Lower South.” The Upper South included the Chesapeake area (Virginia, Maryland, Delaware), Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina and Tennessee. The Lower South included South Carolina and Georgia.

Following the introduction of the cotton gin and the cotton explosion throughout the Cotton Belt or Black Belt, the nineteenth-century “Deep South” or “King Cotton South” expanded into the area from Alabama to Texas through Missouri and Arkansas. The states of the Deep South were Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Texas.

#### Tobacco Plantations — Chesapeake

##### Establishment of Slavery

- First slaves arrived in the English mainland colonies.
- They were treated as indentured servants.
- As late as 1690 they numbered only about 2,000 in Virginia (out of a total population of 35,000).
- The supply of European indentured servants to the Chesapeake dried up just as more Africans were becoming available.
- The four decades following 1700 saw the heaviest importation of slaves into the Chesapeake and Carolina regions.
- Between 1700 and 1750 Virginia planters imported about 45,000 slaves.
- The black population increased during these years from perhaps 10,000 to over 100,000. In 1680 only 7 percent of Virginia’s population was African in origin, but by 1700 the proportion had increased to 28 percent and half the labor force was enslaved.

##### Legal Foundations

- During the early period there was no clear legal definition of slavery in the mainland colonies.
- In the seventeenth century African slavery and white and African servitude existed side by side, and laws to enforce slavery appeared piecemeal.
- The first Virginia law recognizing slavery was passed in 1661.
- In 1705 Virginia passed a comprehensive slave code that became a model for other colonies.
- As long as the black population remained small, the color line was blurry.
- In the late seventeenth century laws were passed restricting the freedom of black people, and slavery became institutionalized and recognized by law.

##### Working Conditions

- On small plantations and farms, typical in the tobacco country of the Chesapeake, Africans sometimes worked side by side with their owners.
- Tobacco plantations were larger and closer to one another than were rice plantations. The size and proximity of tobacco plantations permitted slaves more frequent contact with friends and relatives.
- Many Chesapeake slaves, like those in the Lower South, were African born, but most lived on smaller plantations with fewer than 20 fellow slaves.
- Chesapeake slaves also had more contact with whites. Chesapeake masters actively managed their estates and subjected their slaves to closer scrutiny.
- Most Chesapeake slaves lived in units consisting of mother, father and small children.
- In some cases, fathers were married away from their own plantations and visited “broad wives” and children during their off hours.

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### Question 3 — Information List (continued)

- Tobacco, the dominant crop in the Chesapeake region, required oversight, so planters organized slaves into gangs that worked together under the watchful eye of a white overseer or black slave driver.
- By 1720 the proportion of females in the Chesapeake slave population had begun to rise, making family life possible.
- By the 1730s the slave population of the Chesapeake had become the first in the Western Hemisphere to achieve self-sustained growth.

#### Changes in the Late Seventeenth Century

- Planters were increasingly fearful by rebellions of former indentured servants.
- By the mid-1680s, for the first time, black slaves outnumbered white servants among the plantation colonies' new arrivals.
- In 1698 Royal African Company lost its monopoly on slave trade and the supply of slaves increased sharply. More than 10,000 Africans came to America in the decade after 1700.
- Blacks were nearly half the population of Virginia by 1750.
- Earlier in the seventeenth century there was no clear legal difference between a slave and a servant. But in the late seventeenth century the law began to make sharp distinctions between the two, primarily on the basis of race. New statutes or "slave codes" made black people and their children the property (or "chattels") of white slaveholders for life.
- Beginning in the 1680s Virginia statutes referred to people of English descent as "white" rather than as "Christian."

#### End of the Old South

- In 1790 the future of slavery was uncertain in the Chesapeake. The tobacco market had been precarious since before the Revolution and continued to decline after 1790.
- With slave labor becoming less necessary, Chesapeake planters continued to switch to grain and livestock — which required less labor than tobacco — and tried to think up new uses for slaves. Some planters divided their land into small plots and rented both the plots and slaves to white tenant farmers. Others, particularly in Maryland, recruited tenants from the growing ranks of free blacks. Still others hired out their slaves as artisans and urban laborers.
- Many began to free their slaves. In Virginia free blacks increased from 4 percent in 1790 to 7 percent by 1810.
- Thousands of blacks from the soil-exhausted slave states of the Old South, especially tobacco-depleted Virginia, were sent as field-gang laborers to the cotton frontier of the lower Mississippi Valley.
- The interstate trade involved an estimated 600,000 to 700,000 slaves over the period 1815–1860.
- Virginia planters found their slaves newly valuable, which led to slave breeding.

#### Cotton Plantations — Deep South

- The first major cotton-producing regions were inland areas of Georgia and South Carolina, but the center of production shifted rapidly westward during the nineteenth century, first to Alabama and Mississippi and then to Arkansas, northwestern Louisiana and eastern Texas.
- By 1820 the cotton boom extended slavery into the territory south of Pennsylvania and the Ohio River Valley and east of the Mississippi River, as well as into Missouri and Louisiana.
- Slaves in the low country of South Carolina and Georgia lived on large plantations with as many as 50 other black workers and had infrequent contact with either their masters or the rest of the sparse white population.

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### Question 3 — Information List (continued)

- Of the 1.5 million enslaved inhabitants of the South in 1820, probably three-quarters lived on plantations
- The typical (cotton) plantation had 20 to 50 slaves and 800 to 1,000 acres of land.
- Slavery remained a highly profitable investment. The average slaveholder spent perhaps \$30 to \$35 a year to support an adult slave. A planter could expect one of his slaves to produce more than \$78 worth of cotton.
- By 1860 most slaves were concentrated in the “Black Belt” of the Deep South that stretched from South Carolina and Georgia into the new southwest states of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.
- In South Carolina and Georgia, rice remained a major crop, but from 1780 to 1810 a switch was made from indigo as the second crop to cotton. During the period 1788 to 1808 some 250,000 slaves were brought from Africa, almost all into Charleston and Savannah.

#### Changes in the Eighteenth Century

- By 1775 one out of every five Americans was of African ancestry, and more than 90 percent of all black Americans lived in the South, most along the seaboard on tobacco and rice plantations.
- Legal importation of African slaves into the United States ended in 1808.
- Although slavery was a national institution in 1776, by 1820 it was confined to the states south of Pennsylvania and the Ohio River.
- In the aftermath of the American Revolution, most northern states gradually abolished slavery.

#### Slavery in the Nineteenth Century

- After the middle of the eighteenth century a number of changes led to the growth of black families and created vibrant slave communities. As slave importations began to taper off, the rate of natural reproduction among blacks started to climb, and the ratio of men to women became more equal.
- By 1860 there were nearly four million black slaves in the South. Their numbers had quadrupled since 1800. The majority of the increase came from natural reproduction.
- The United States was the only slave society in the Americas where the slave population increased naturally — at about the same rate as the white population.
- Planters invested nearly \$2 billion of their capital into slaves by 1860.
- Larger slaveholders usually owned several plantations, with an overseer to manage the slaves.
- The conditions slaves encountered varied widely, depending on the size of the farm or plantation, the crop being grown, the personality of the master and whether he was an absentee owner.
- On the large plantations, slave women worked as seamstresses, cooks, nurses or maids in the master’s house.
- Slave men worked as butlers, coachmen and valets. Besides working in the fields, they might serve as drivers, skilled mechanics or craftsmen.
- House servants and the drivers, who supervised the field hands, had the highest status, and skilled artisans such as carpenters and blacksmiths were also given special recognition. The hardest work was done by the field hands, both men and women, who sometimes were divided into plow hands and hoe gangs.
- Some plantations had the gang system, in which a white overseer or black driver supervised gangs of 20 to 25 adults. The gang system was widely used in the cotton districts.
- Other plantations had the task system, whereby each slave was given a specific daily assignment to complete, after which he or she was finished for the day. This was most common in rice fields. This system allowed slaves to work at their own pace, gave them an incentive to do careful work and freed the overseers from having to closely supervise the work.

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### Question 3 — Information List (continued)

- Slaves were in the field 15–16 hours a day. Work was uncommon on Sundays and frequently involved only a half day on Saturday. Rough cheap cloth was distributed for clothing once a year, enough to make a couple of outfits, and one pair of shoes. Sickness was a persistent problem. On average planters spent less than a dollar a year on medical care for slaves.
- About 5 percent of slaves worked in industry in the South, including mills, ironworks and railroad building.
- Slaves in cities took on a wider range of jobs than did plantation slaves — as porters, waiters, cooks and skilled laborers in tradesmen’s shops — and in general enjoyed more autonomy.

#### Slave Resistance

- To resist, slaves abused machinery, mishandled animals, broke tools, lost items, worked carelessly, feigned illness or stole items.
- They also slowed the pace of work, fostering a myth of black “laziness.”
- Slave revolts included those by Gabriel Prosser (Richmond, 1800), Denmark Vesey (Charleston, 1822) and Nat Turner (Virginia, 1831).
- Denmark Vesey was a free black of Charleston who belonged to the African Methodist church. In 1822 he planned to take over the armory, but Gullah Jack, a conjurer, spread word of the plan and Vesey, Jack and 34 others were hung.

#### Slave Families

- Maintaining a sense of family was one of the most remarkable achievements of black people in bondage.
- Masters often found it advantageous to encourage strong marriage ties among their slaves as it reduced rivalries and made for a more efficient workforce.
- Southern laws did not recognize slave marriages as legally binding.
- The traditional nuclear family of father, mother and children was the rule, not the exception.
- Slaves developed strong kinship networks; aunts and uncles were expected to look after children in an extended network of mutual obligation.
- On large plantations with relatively stable slave populations, a substantial majority of slave children lived in two-parent households, and many marriages lasted for as long as 20–30 years.
- In areas where most slaves lived on farms or small plantations, especially in the Upper South, the trading and hiring out of slaves frequently took place. Slaves often had spouses who resided on other plantations or farms, even some distance away, and ties between husbands and wives were looser and more fragile. The result was that female-headed families in these areas were the norm, and responsibility for child rearing was vested in mothers, assisted in most cases by female relatives and friends.

#### Slave Religion

- Slaveholders encouraged religion as an effective means of social control. Most slaves sought Christianity on their own, beyond the control of the master.
- Slave preachers, conjurers and herb doctors held status that no white conferred.
- After 1830 most of the southern states outlawed black preachers, but the laws could not be enforced.
- Blacks were attracted to the enthusiastic Protestantism of Baptists and Methodists, though they never fully accepted the Protestant emphasis on guilt.

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## 2010 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

### Question 3 — Information List (continued)

#### Contrasts

- The tobacco and rice planters of the Atlantic Tidewater were part of a settled region and a culture that reached back 150 to 200 years. States such as Mississippi and Arkansas, in contrast, were at or just emerging from the frontier stage, since most of their residents had arrived after 1815. Consequently, the society of the Southwest was more volatile.
- In Chesapeake Bay the economy was built around tobacco. Virginia planters tended to buy more black women from Africa than did rice planters, in order to cheaply increase their supply of slaves through childbearing. This in turn allowed for healthier and more vigorous family life among Chesapeake Bay slaves, who in any event were freer of sickness because they did not work in disease-ridden swamps and in large gangs, where contagious diseases spread rapidly. The Virginia slaves therefore flourished through natural increase in a fashion strikingly different from that farther south.
- The movement of slaves out of the Chesapeake was immense. In the 1790s about 1 in 12 Virginia and Maryland slaves was taken south and west. The figure rose to 1 in 10 between 1800 and 1810, and 1 in 5 between 1810 and 1820. In 1790 planters in Virginia and Maryland had owned 56 percent of all American slaves; by 1860 they owned only 15 percent.
- Nineteenth-century slaves were not evenly distributed throughout the region. More than half lived in the Deep South, where blacks outnumbered whites in both South Carolina and Mississippi by the 1850s. Elsewhere in the Deep South, the black population exceeded 40 percent in all states except Texas. In the Upper South, on the other hand, whites greatly outnumbered blacks. Only in Virginia and North Carolina did the slave population top 30 percent.
- A majority of blacks in the Deep South lived on larger plantations that had communities of 20 or more slaves. There the family life of slaves tended to be relatively stable, and a distinctive African American slave culture developed. Forced separations of spouses and of parents and children were evidently more common on smaller plantations and in the Upper South.
- Slaves living on farms or small plantations no doubt had closer contact with the white owners and their families. They often ate at the same table with the master and sometimes even slept in the same cabin. But slaves who lived in such close quarters with their owners were constantly subject to white scrutiny, always made aware of their inferior social status and had less opportunity to meet other blacks. In addition, small farmers were more likely to run into financial problems and be forced to sell their slaves.
- Slaves under the task system (common on South Carolina and Georgia rice and cotton plantations) won the right to cultivate land as “private fields” — not the little garden plots common in the Chesapeake, but farms of up to five acres on which they grew produce and raised livestock for market. A lively trade developed in slave-produced goods, and by the late 1850s slaves in the low country not only produced and exchanged property but also passed it on to their children.

#### Transformational Forces

- Attitudes toward slavery rapidly changed in the South following the invention of the cotton gin in 1793. White Southerners forced slaves to work at the pace required in the cotton fields in order to turn high profits.
- Planters in the Upper South regularly sold their surplus slaves to cotton and sugar planters in the Deep South. The demand in the Deep South drove prices up so that by the later 1850s a prime field hand, who would have sold for \$600 in the early 1840s, commanded \$1,500.
- From the 1830s onward, after the Denmark Vesey conspiracy and Nat Turner’s Rebellion, the Southern states sharply reversed an earlier trend toward manumissions and the weakening of slavery in its legal definition. In these states, manumissions were almost impossible, and free blacks were either driven out or placed under strict controls.

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### Question 3 — Information List (continued)

- Southern whites sought to make slavery more humane, hoping to prevent insurrections.
- In every decade after 1820 at least 150,000 slaves were uprooted either by slave trading or planter migration to new areas, and in the expansions of the 1830s and the 1850s the number reached a quarter of a million.
- Between 1820 and 1860 nearly 50 percent of the slave population of the Upper South was a part of the southern expansion.

#### Terms/Data

big house

Black Belt

black ivory

breakers (harsh owners/drivers)

Brear Rabbit

broad wives (wives on other plantations)

“Can see to can’t see” (work from sunup to sundown)

cotton gin

Cotton Belt

Equiano, Olaudah (former slave and author of *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*, 1789)

gang system

Geechee (slave language of sea islands, corruption of Gizzis peoples of Africa)

“goober,” “gumbo,” “voodoo” come from Gullah

Gullah (slave language of sea islands, corruption of Angola)

hush harbors (slave religious practice centers)

Johnson, William (the “barber of Natchez,” mulatto slave owner in New Orleans)

paternalism (master attitude)

“patting juba” (slapping thighs in musical elements)

peculiar institution

Posser, Gabriel (1800)

responsorial style (religious services)

“Second Middle Passage” (internal migration of 19th century)

spirituals (“Steal Away to Jesus,” “Canaan, Sweet Canaan,” “Go Down Moses,” “Cross over Jordan”)

slave codes

slave pens (collection areas for slaves being sold internally)

“Sold down the river”

stinking weed

Stono Rebellion (Stono Bridge, South Carolina, 1739)

task system

Turner, Nat (1831)

Vesey, Denmark (1822)

“Until death or distance do you part” (slave wedding vow)

Whitney, Eli

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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| Mandatory<br><b>1</b> | Part B — Circle one<br><b>2 or 3</b> | Part C — Circle one<br><b>4 or 5</b> |
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3 A  
1 of 3

3.

Slavery is perhaps the single most influential factor that shaped American history as we know it today. However, it was not always ~~the~~ like how modern people picture ~~it~~ today, à la 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' In the early seventeenth-century Chesapeake region, slaves were more or less similar to indentured servants - they were even granted freedom in some cases - ~~however~~ ~~but~~ as factors like the ~~in~~ Barbados Slave Code, ~~and the provision for~~ ~~the abolition of importing slaves in the Constitution of 1787,~~ and the invention of the cotton gin began to affect the 'peculiar institution', ~~the~~ slavery began to change <sup>into</sup> a cruel and ~~unpaid~~ unjust system in which <sup>slaves</sup> ~~they~~ were no longer considered human.

In the early ~~the~~ 17<sup>th</sup> century Chesapeake region, slavery was not yet ~~well~~ well-developed. There were ~~more~~ ~~not~~ a significant number of white indentured servants, and they were treated almost ~~of~~ equally ~~to~~ as the slaves. Slaves could even be freed by generous masters, and ~~for~~ a few freed blacks went on to amass their own fortunes and make a living on their own. ~~Tobacco~~ ~~People were still~~ - The most numerous ~~crop~~ in these colonies were still whites, and slaves were just seen as a different form of servitude.

~~However~~, However, with the Barbados Slave Codes, enacted by Southern legislatures later on, slavery itself began to change. From ~~just~~ merely an alternate source of labor, ~~slavery transformed into~~ slaves ~~was~~ ~~transformed~~ were transformed into a whole new sub-class of humans. Slaves were declared to be inferior to whites; they were not allowed to ~~to~~ read, or indeed, learn at all, ~~and~~ and simply be used as tools for labor. If the social



Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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3 A  
2 of 3

hierarchy before had placed the white indentured servants and the ~~later~~ slaves on the bottom, the hierarchy now placed the slaves at the very bottom of the ladder, pronouncing all whites absolutely superior to blacks. This <sup>event</sup> was important in that it changed the very concept of slavery in the eyes of the Americans. Some even began to justify this system using the Bible, ~~and~~ but still, as time progressed and the abolitionist movements heightened, the defiant South began to refer to slavery as the aforementioned "peculiar institution".

Another event that ~~was~~ changed slavery was the invention of the Cotton Gin by Eli Whitney. ~~This~~ This Yale graduate revived the moribund cotton business of the Deep South, and, ~~as~~ consequentially, ~~the~~ slavery as well. The Cotton Gin allowed for greater mass ~~prod~~ production of cotton harvest, and led to an incredible rise in the world cotton demand. As the cotton business thrived, so did the business of slavery. <sup>Slavery had</sup> ~~that had~~ once been dying out <sup>partly</sup> as a result of the government's attempts to stop the import of slaves ~~and~~ <sup>by</sup> the early 19<sup>th</sup> century — but due to the booming business of King Cotton, the demand rose for slavery also, and the black market in slave ~~the~~ trade began to thrive. The price of slaves skyrocketed.

All these factors came to shape the significantly altered form of slavery on the cotton plantations in the Deep South the nineteenth century. Slavery was now something ~~and still~~ indispensable to the rich planters of the South. They were also now more deprived of rights than ever, simply being regarded as property. ~~Family~~ Familial bonds were unable to develop because masters were prone to separating families and selling them separately. Female slaves

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

3 A

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were victim to sexual ~~assaults~~ exploitation by their masters, and slaves in general were mostly victims to extreme punishments. The slavery ~~found~~ in the nineteenth century was not the <sup>same</sup> slavery ~~found~~ in the seventeenth century — and this new form ~~to~~ met increasingly forceful protests from the abolitionists to the ~~far~~ North.

Slavery, ~~that~~ which had once been a simply a different substitution for white indentured servants, <sup>had</sup> morphed into a shameful form ~~of~~ by the nineteenth century, having been affected by the Barbados slave Codes <sup>and the invention of the Cotton Gin.</sup> ~~The abolition of a banning of importing slaves, and the invention of the Cotton Gin.~~ The first deprived the slaves of their basic rights and created a form of ~~labor~~ servitude unseen before in history; the <sup>latter</sup> ~~same~~ provided for the surge in demand for cotton and therefore slavery, too. In whichever form, ~~that~~ slavery had an immense impact on American history, and continues to affect <sup>nearly all</sup> ~~many~~ areas of American society even in today's modern world.

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Before the Civil War in the US, one of the most controversial topics between Northerners and Southerners was Slavery. However slavery had been in effect since 1619 in the New World. Why was slavery now becoming such a big deal in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century? The answer comes in the difference between the tobacco slaves of the 1600s and the cotton slaves of the 1800s. This difference came about through racism, greed, and laziness.

First of all, the Deep South cotton planters ~~were~~ had a sense of superiority over the blacks that wasn't as prevalent in the 1600s. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, slaves were a necessity, as indentured servants were becoming free and Indians were getting sick. Blacks were strong, healthy, and hard workers. In the next 200 years, though, as the Manifest Destiny ~~gave~~ gave whites a sense of power, blacks lost what little identities they had. However, it should not be forgotten that books like Uncle Tom's Cabin exaggerated and only showed the extreme treatment of blacks. Southerners were racist against the ~~the~~ color, but loved the individuals as nannies or valuable labor assets.

Greed entered into the minds of the whites too. Cotton was becoming a huge cash crop in the South, and exports were being sent near and far. Also, with new inventions like Eli Whitney's cotton gin in 1793, more work could be done, so more work was asked for. The more cotton was worth, the more desperate planters were to get it. If quotas weren't met, then the slaves got tens or hundreds of lashes by a whip. Tobacco in the Chesapeake was also a lucrative cash crop, and the slaves were driven hard. But early on, colonists were ~~trying to be self sufficient~~ merely trying

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

3B

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to be self sufficient, and didn't feel the need to become rich plantation owners.

The last factor that contributed to slave mistreatment in the 1800s was the laziness of the white owners. Chesapeake plantation owners like John Rolfe, the Tobacco King, ~~was~~ understood hard work, as they struggled to survive and build up their colonies in the New World. In the cottonocracy, some plantation owners had so many slaves and even wardens to look after the slaves, that they themselves barely lifted a finger. They grew lazier still, which made more work get done by slaves. It became a vicious cycle.

Even though slavery had existed in America since the early 1600s, it was drastically changed to a brutal ~~and~~ "peculiar institution" by the 1800s. The ~~race~~ racism, greed, and laziness ~~causing~~ of the white plantation owners in the cottonocracy contributed to this change, and the racism that was fueled carried on well into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and even to today.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

3C  
1 of 1

|                       |                                      |                                      |
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Considering the slaves in the 1700s were in a different location and time period from the ones to come in the 1900s, there were many things that set them apart. Yet from living the life of a slave, they also endured many of the same challenges.

When slaves were brought to America, most of the time they were set in fairly bad conditions with hard work to do everyday. ~~most of the time they were treated~~ They were all treated pretty badly, being considered the lowest of the lowest. Yet to their masters slaves were important because they got the jobs done that made them successful. ~~most of the time they were treated~~

A lot of things changed however, between those times. As slaves continued to be brought in to America, their population over the years grew tremendously. By the time the 1900s came, slave treatment had become a lot worse, especially in the South. Another difference can be found in what was being produced. In the Chesapeake region, tobacco and other crops were the main export and production. In the South during the 1900s, it was clearly the cotton plantations. After Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, more and more slaves were put to work picking cotton and conditions got worse.

However, it's safe to say that the slaves picking cotton in the South probably had it worse for a while in the 1900s. Work was more strenuous and it is likely they were treated bad considering all that went on at that time.

There were also

many more rebellions that took place in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Not to mention that once 1863 came around by the issuing of the emancipation proclamation, they were declared free

**AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY**  
**2010 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)**

**Question 3**

**Sample: 3A**

**Score: 8**

This essay is extremely well organized and well written with a clear thesis supported throughout. There is clear emphasis on the comparison and contrast of the slave experience of the two eras and regions, and also clear understanding of the forces that transformed the institution of slavery. Substantial information is introduced, including indentured servants, the Barbados Slave Code, “peculiar institution,” the cotton gin and Eli Whitney. A strength of this essay is its understanding of the transformation of the concept of slavery and the institution’s anticipated demise and then revival. A lack of more detailed discussion of slave experiences and supporting information kept this essay from receiving the top score.

**Sample: 3B**

**Score: 5**

The thesis of this essay, found in the last sentence of the first paragraph, is that the changes that occurred in U.S. slavery between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries were the result of “racism, greed, and laziness.” The essay provides ample evidence (Manifest Destiny, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, Eli Whitney, the cotton gin, John Rolfe, cottonocracy) to support this assertion. The essay is acceptably organized and written, although the insufficient caliber of the analysis prevented it from earning a higher score.

**Sample: 3C**

**Score: 2**

This essay has a very simplistic thesis and only minimal relevant information, such as Eli Whitney, the cotton gin and early nineteenth-century rebellions. It is poorly written. The evidence presented is so limited that useful comparisons and contrasts are not made. The nineteenth century is confused with the 1900s, and forces transforming slavery are not addressed.