**GUIDED READING EXERCISE**

**Chapter 13—Understanding the Slave South, 1820–1860**

* **How did slavery shape the institutions and values of the antebellum South?**

***Download and save this document so you can return to it to take notes and later use it for studying.*** *As you read the chapter, fill in the chart below to remind yourself of the ways in which slavery shaped the institutions and values of the antebellum South. If you copy and paste from the text, make sure you place quotation marks around the copied material; if you are able to describe the institutions and values in your own words, however, you should do so.*

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|  | Slavery's effect on southern institutions | Slavery's influence on southern values |
| **Why did the South become so distinctly different from the North?** |  |  |
| Cotton Kingdom, Slave Empire |  |  |
| The South in Black and White |  |  |
| The Plantation Economy |  |  |
| **What was plantation life like for masters and mistresses?** |  |  |
| Paternalism and Male Honor |  |  |
| The Southern Lady and Feminine Virtues |  |  |
| **What was plantation life like for slaves?** |  |  |
| Work |  |  |
| Family and Religion |  |  |
| Resistance and Rebellion |  |  |
| **How did nonslaveholding southern whites work and live?** |  |  |
| Plantation-Belt Yeomen |  |  |
| Upcountry Yeomen |  |  |
| Poor Whites |  |  |
| The Culture of the Plain Folk |  |  |
| **What place did free blacks occupy in the South?** |  |  |
| Precarious Freedom |  |  |
| Achievement despite Restrictions |  |  |
| **How did slavery shape southern politics?** |  |  |
| The Democratization of the Political Arena |  |  |
| Planter Power |  |  |

*After you have read the chapter, use your notes to compose an essay that answers the following question:*

* **How did slavery shape the institutions and values of the antebellum South?**

*Be sure to include an opening, introductory paragraph in which you state your thesis. Then use the body of your essay to provide evidence from the chapter to support that thesis. When thinking about how to organize this essay, you might want to consider how slavery influenced southern values and how southern institutions reflected those values. End by writing a clear conclusion to your essay.*