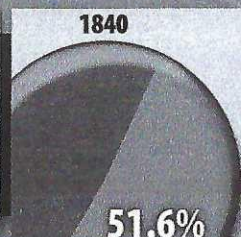
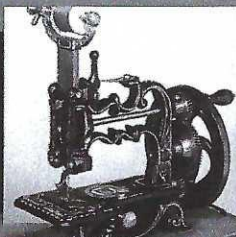


- ✓ **GRAPHIC ORGANIZER**
The Southern Economy
- ✓ **MAP** Cotton Production
1820–1860



Lesson 3

Southern Cotton Kingdom

ESSENTIAL QUESTION *Why do people make economic choices?*

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

The demand for cotton deepened the white South's commitment to slavery and a slave-based economy.

Rise of the Cotton Kingdom

GUIDING QUESTION *How were the economies of the South and North different?*

In the early years of the United States, the South had an economy based almost entirely on farming, despite the fact that settlers had developed only a small part of the region. Most Southerners lived in the Upper South, an area along the Atlantic coast in Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. A few people had also settled in Georgia and South Carolina.

By 1850, the South had changed. Its population had spread inland to the Deep South. This region includes Georgia and South Carolina, as well as Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. The economy of the South was thriving. That economy depended, however, on slavery. In fact, slavery grew stronger than ever in the South, while it all but disappeared in the North.

Cotton Is King

Southern planters grew mainly rice, indigo, and tobacco in colonial times. After the American Revolution, demand for these crops decreased. European mills now wanted Southern cotton.

Raising a cotton crop took a large amount of time and labor. After the harvest, workers had to carefully separate the plant's sticky seeds from the cotton fibers.

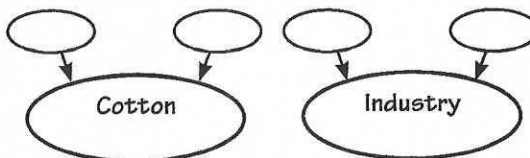


New York Academic Standards
7.8a, 7.8d

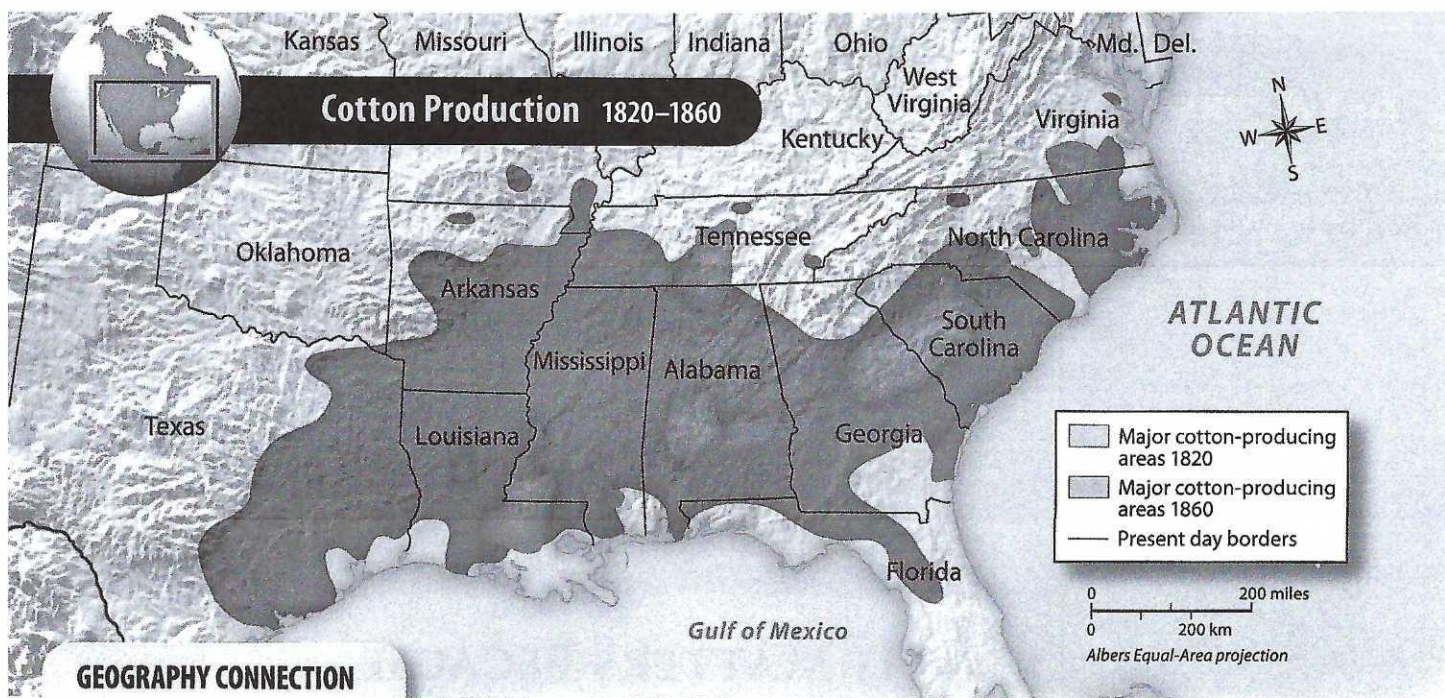
Reading **HELPDESK** **CCSS**

Taking Notes: Determining Cause and Effect

As you read, use a diagram like this one to show the reasons cotton production grew but industrial growth was slower in the South.

**Content Vocabulary**

- **productivity**
- **domestic slave trade**



GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

Agriculture was very profitable in the South. By 1860, much of the South was devoted to raising cotton.

1 REGION In which region did cotton expand most, the Upper South or Deep South?

2 CRITICAL THINKING
Making Connections How might the expansion of slavery in the Deep South affect slavery in the Upper South?

Eli Whitney solved this problem with his invention of the cotton gin in 1793. Whitney's gin quickly and easily removed seeds from cotton fibers. With a cotton gin, **productivity** (proh·duhk·TIH·vuh·tee)—the amount a worker can produce in a given time—shot up. The cotton gin helped workers **process** 50 times more cotton each day than they could by hand.

The use of the cotton gin had important **consequences**. It encouraged farmers to grow more cotton in more places. Because Southern planters relied on enslaved workers to plant and pick their cotton, the demand for slave labor increased. Slavery spread across a larger area of the South.

By 1860, the Deep South and Upper South remained agricultural, but each region concentrated on different crops. The Upper South grew more tobacco, hemp, wheat, and vegetables. The Deep South produced more cotton, as well as rice and sugarcane.

Because more workers were needed to produce cotton and sugar, the sale of enslaved Africans became a big business. The Upper South became a center for the sale and transport of enslaved people. This trade became known as the **domestic slave trade**.

✓ PROGRESS CHECK

Describing What effect did the cotton gin have on the South's economy?

Reading HELPDESK



productivity a measure of how much a worker can produce with a given amount of time and effort

domestic slave trade the trade of enslaved people among states of the United States

Academic Vocabulary

process to prepare

consequence result