Regions3

south-eastern belonged born conflict tourism Plantations proud population cooler church called crop depression up towards roots slaves difference from be cities Bible outbreak sparsely region conservative slavery religious suitable attractive

The South

The South is perhaps the most distinctive _____ of the US. Its name is misleading: it is not the southern but only the _____ part of the US, stretching from Virginia on the East Coast to Florida in the south and Texas in the west.

Its identity comes _____ its history: it includes those states that maintained _____ as a legal institution and established their economic and social life on it. As a result, the South came into _____ with the North in the first half of the 19th century, and this conflict led to the _____ of the Civil War (1861–65). The defeat of the South in the war resulted in a long period of economic _____, social problems and long-standing hostility _____ the rest of the US, which increased the _____ of Southern culture even more.

The climate and the good soil made the area very _____ for farming, and plantation agriculture quickly developed. _____ were large plots of land cultivated by many servants and later _____, producing one single kind of _____ to be sold for cash. The crops were tobacco, rice and sugar cane and cotton. The fertile coastal plain along the Gulf of Mexico from South Carolina to Louisiana came to _____ called the Deep South. Most of the black population of the US is still concentrated in the Deep South. Further north, the soil was poorer and the climate _____, thus it was not _____ for plantations. In this area, small family farms were established producing grain and dairy, raising livestock, using few or no slaves. This area, ranging from West Virginia to Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas, is _____ the Upland South.

The lack of big _____ did not attract many foreign immigrants, and therefore the white population remained native-born and mostly British in

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origin, except the old French settlers in Louisiana and some Spanish in Florida. The South is the most _____ region of the United States. Most Southerners distrusted and disliked other Americans, “the Yankees”, who defeated and humiliated them in the Civil War. It is also the most _____ region, where the majority belong to conservative Protestant denominations, especially the Southern Baptists: the region is often nicknamed the _____ Belt because of its high proportion of churchgoers.

Texas and Florida differ significantly from the rest of the Southern states. Florida has always been special, because it _____ to Spain until 1819, and its poor, swampy land was unattractive for agriculture, so it remained _____ populated and was little affected by slavery. It began to develop in the 20th century, when its pleasant climate and sandy beaches were discovered for _____. Today, Florida has the fourth largest _____ in the US, and is still growing fast. Texas is the largest state in the Continental US and has the second largest population.

The South is very _____ of its rich cultural heritage. Most of the popular American musical genres originate from the region: blues was the music of black slaves in the Mississippi delta, gospel music developed in black _____ congregations, while white country music has its _____ in English and Scottish folk music played in the Appalachian hills. Jazz developed out of the black heritage in New Orleans in the early 20th century, while rock & roll used elements of both blues and country in the 1950s. Dozens of world-famous American musicians came from the South, including jazz trumpeter and singer Louis Armstrong, _____ in New Orleans, the “King of rock & roll”, Elvis Presley, who grew _____ in Memphis, or country singer Johnny Cash, born in Arkansas.

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