U.S. Cultures I Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

BLACK CODES

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE READING:

Vocabulary: repress, restrictive, hamper

Key ideas: Person responsible for a black person’s conduct, punishment, reasons for codes

Although the defeat of the South in 1865 ended the institution of slavery, some Southern states devised new ways to repress African-Americans. Restrictive laws called black codes passed by Southern legislatures hampered African-Americans in the exercise of their freedom. Read the black codes that follow:

Every negro who shall be found absent from the residence of his employer shall pay a fine of five dollars, or… shall be compelled to work 5 days on the public road, or suffer corporal punishment…

No negro shall be permitted to rent or keep a house within said [county]….

Every negro is required to be in the regular service of some white person, or former owner, who shall be held responsible for [his] conduct….

No negro… not in the military service shall be allowed to carry fire-arms… without the special written permission of his employer…

No negro shall sell, barter, or exchange any articles of merchandise or traffic within said [county] without the special written permission of his employer…

GOLDEN LINE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

And, of course, a QUESTION:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have a nice day.