

Q1.1

Antebellum

The next time you hear a Lady Antebellum song, remember that **antebellum** literally means “before the war” in Latin (*ante* = “before”; *bellum* = “war”). In the United States, *antebellum* usually refers only to the period before the Civil War; for example, you may read about *antebellum* architecture or *antebellum* collectibles that were made during this period. *The Old South* is sometimes used to describe the *antebellum* South, although *Old South* can also have a geographic or political meaning. (You’re much more likely to hear about the *antebellum* South than about the *antebellum* North, since there were more changes in the South after the war.)

Cotton was king of the antebellum South, and befitting its regal position many retainers were necessary to bring each year’s crop from the field to its ultimate destination in the North or abroad.

—Marilyn Anne Lavin in *William Bostwick, Connecticut Yankee in Antebellum Georgia*