Aboukhadijeh, Feross. "King Cotton." - AP U.S. History Topic Outlines. Studynotes.org, 17 Nov. 2012. Web. 11 Mar. 2013. In the article "King Cotton", Feross Aboukhadijeh gives the background on the invention of the cotton gin and also its effects on all of the United States. She first describes the need for this machine and then later describes the effects on many classes in both the northern and southern states. This article was written and approved for a reliable database of study notes for AP level students, and each article, including this one, is written by a teacher or professor of the topic being written about, so it is reasonable to believe that this information is trustworthy.

Brodsky Schur, Joan. "Teaching With Documents:Eli Whitney's Patent for the Cotton Gin." Eli Whitney's Patent for the Cotton Gin. National Archives, n.d. Web. 10 Mar. 2013. Joan Brodsky Shur describes the idea, need, and patenting process for Eli Whitney’s cotton gin. She describes the problems Whitney encountered while trying to patent his invention as well as its effect on cotton farming after it was patented. Because this article was published by the National Archives, it is safe to believe that all of this information has been approved by one of the most reputable sources in all of the United States and is therefore accurate.

"Cotton and the Cotton Trade." New York Times. Nytimes.com, 22 Jan. 1861. Web. 24 Mar. 2013. In this article published in the New York Times in 1861, the cotton trade all over the world is described. The cotton trade in America, India, and Egypt are the main topics, with attention to their relationship with England. This article showed me that although cotton was being produced all over the world, America produced this valuable crop at the fastest rate. Others may have had better quality, but America made the most profit because of the rate they produced it at. This article is reliable because it was published in the New York Times, the one of the biggest and most trustworthy newspapers ever. This newspaper has been published for over 150 years, with constant accurate information.

Evans, Harold, Gail Buckland, and David Lefer. They Made America: From the Steam Engine to the Search Engine: Two Centuries of Innovators. New York: Little, Brown, 2004. 50-55. Print. This bestselling reference book written by Harold Evans, Gail Buckland, and David Lefer describes the inventors of the greatest innovations in American history and each one's effect on its era. In the specific chapter I used, Eli Whitney’s journey to inventing the cotton gin is examined. Harold Evans, one of the authors, is an accomplished author who wrote the acclaimed book "The American Century". Co-author Gail Buckland helped write this book as well as writing multiple other books about American history. David Lefer, the final contributor, is an industry professor. Because this book was written by three proven and reliable professionals, the information in this book is also most likely reliable.

Gray, Thomas, Jr. "The South Still Gropes in Eli Whitney's Shadow." The Georgia Historical Quarterly 20.4 (1936): 345-55. JSTOR. Web. 6 Apr. 2013. More than 100 years after the invention of the cotton gin, Thomas Gray Jr. describes how the south and its economy are still affected by this machine. Many long lasting effects are described in this article. This was a helpful article because is showed me that the cotton gin had effects on the United States even after the Civil War. Gary's article was published in the Georgia Historical Quarterly, a journal that has been running for about 100 years. It is one of the most reliable state historical journals and has won multiple awards. Because of this, the information in this scholarly journal and this particular article is probably trustworthy.

Hammond, James H. "Cotton Is King." Senate of the United States, Washington, D.C. 4 Mar. 1858. Speech. James H. Hammond stated that cotton is "king" in his speech in front of the US Senate in 1858. In his speech, Hammond argued that cotton is the most important crop in the most powerful part of the United States, the South. He also said that slavery was misperceived in the North and slaves were actually treated very well. He wanted to avoid the Civil War, saying that nobody wanted a war on cotton. Hammond was a politician and was in the House of Representatives, the Senate, and was governor of South Carolina. Because he was a southerner, he was likely biased, but it is reasonable to believe that his speech provides an accurate picture of southerners’ views about cotton and slavery.

Hamner, Christopher. "Teaching History.org, Home of the National History Education Clearinghouse." The Disaster of Innovation. N.p., n.d. Web. 03 Mar. 2013. Christopher Hamner describes how the invention of the cotton gin affected the economy in the South and especially slavery. He provides several examples of the changes in slave life because of this invention. Hamner is a professor at George Mason University. He is also the author of the book *Enduring Battle: American Soldiers in Three Wars, 1776-1945*. Because of his credibility as an author and a professor of American History, it is reasonable to believe that Professor Hamner’s information is both accurate and unbiased.

Jefferson, Thomas. Letter to Eli Whitney Jr. 16 Nov. 1793. Teaching American History in South Carolina. N.p., 2009. Web. 11 Mar. 2013. In a letter to Eli Whitney, Thomas Jefferson asks Eli Whitney about his invention, the cotton gin. He wants to know how much cotton this machine will separate and how fast. The main reason I used this source was to learn more about why the cotton gin was needed. Because this is a letter from a plantation owner living in an agriculturally dependent state who knows almost nothing about the cotton gin, it is reasonable to believe that these questions do indeed reflect the southerners' common and important inquires about the cotton gin.

Kelly, Martin. "Overview of the Industrial Revolution." American History. About.com, n.d. Web. 24 Apr. 2013. Martin Kelly provides a broad overview of the Industrial Revolution in this article. He highlights some the major inventions, including the cotton gin, interchangeable parts, the steam engine, and new ways of communication. This article was very important to my research because it shows how influential the cotton gin was in relation to other important inventions. The author of this article, Martin Kelly, is the author of two non-fiction history books. Kelly is also a social studies teacher. Because he is a teacher and an author, he most likely has correct information from reliable sources.

"King Cotton In The Civil War." King Cotton In The Civil War. Civilwarhome.com, 16 Feb. 2002. Web. 12 May 2013. This online source, from civilwarhome.com, gave me a great overview of how the cotton gin affected the Civil War. It talked about how the cotton gin was a major cause of the Civil War and also how it played a factor during the war. I did not have a lot on information about the Civil War so this article really helped me. Civilwarhome.com is a database of about 2,000 reliable articles about the Civil War, so there is no reason for this specific article to be any less authoritative or reliable.

Lakwete, Angela. Inventing the Cotton Gin: Machine and Myth in Antebellum America. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 2003. Print. In Angela Lakwete's book, the history of cotton farming is described, from early hand picking to different types of cotton gins. A major part of this history is Eli Whitney's invention of the "saw gin." She describes how this machine came about and worked, and then how it affected the United States. Angela Lakwete is a professor at Auburn University. She is a member of the department of history at this school. Because she is a professor, it is reasonable to believe that she used reliable information in her book. Many of her sources are also by other famous historians.

Lincoln, Abraham. Letter to Joshua Speed. 24 Aug. 1855. Teachingamericanhistory.org, n.d. Web. 11 May 2013. In this letter, President Abraham Lincoln expresses his concerns about slavery to his friend Joshua Speed. He describes how he thinks that slavery is terrible and should be abolished. This letter should give me a very good idea of the views of slavery in the abolitionist North, which will help my argument. Since this is a personal letter, there is no reason for Lincoln to lie, so all of the information presented will most likely provide an accurate representation of his views.

"Lowell and Lawrence Textile Mills." Open Collections Program: Women Working,. Harvard University, 2013. Web. 24 Apr. 2013. This article published in Harvard University's collection called "Women Working" provides excellent insight on some effects that the cotton gin had on the north. It tells the story of how the first cotton mills were established in the North and the conditions in these mills, specifically Lowell and Lawrence in Massachusetts. This information helped me because it gave me more very good information on the effect the cotton gin had on the northern states. This article was published on Harvard University's website. This institution is one of the oldest and most highly acclaimed universities in the world. It is world renowned and the information that it uses is very authoritative and reliable.

Philips, William. "Cotton Gin." Economic History Services. N.p., 10 Feb. 2004. Web. 3 Mar. 2013. <http://eh.net/encyclopedia/article/phillips.cottongin>. William Philips provides insight into Eli Whitney’s invention of the cotton gin. Using many tables and charts, he provides multiple perspectives on how this machine influenced the United States in the past and its evolution to its purpose today. Philips is from the University of South Carolina and has his article about the cotton gin posted on the Economic History Association’s website. This reputable organization has many other articles and has no reason to provide false information, and neither does Philips.

Whitney, Eli, Jr. Letter to Eli Whitney Sr. 11 Sept. 1793. Teaching American History in South Carolina. N.p., 2009. Web. 4 Mar. 2013. In this letter to his father, Eli Whitney describes to his father how he was called upon to design the cotton gin and how he went about doing this. He also tells his father how he believes it will affect the rest of the United States. Because Whitney is describing his own invention at the time he was inventing it, it reflects the difficulties of farming before the cotton gin and his ideas on how he thinks it will revolutionize agriculture. The letter is an important insight into the conditions of farming cotton before and after the invention of the cotton gin.

Wynveen, Anna. "The Cotton Gin’s Impact on Antebellum America." NeoAmericanist 1.1 (2005-2006). Web. 6 Apr. 2013. Anna Wynveen describes how the invention of the cotton gin led to both social and economic differences between the north and the south, including each one’s perspective on slavery. She then linked these differences to the start of the civil war. This information helped me a lot because it not only talked about how the cotton gin affected the south but also how it impacted the north. This article was published in the NeoAmericanist, an online journal. Because all of the articles on this site are written and edited by established scholars and students, this information is most likely reliable.