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Black People in a White People’s Country by Gary B. Nash Roll No: Teacher: 27th January 2009 Black People in aWhite Peoples Country by Gary B. Nash
African slave trade can be seen as a feature that is linked to the industrial revolution and formation of European colonies. The first Africans that landed in America were brought as slaves. Not only the African slaves were influenced by the European culture but Europeans were also influenced by the African culture. Slave trade also opened ways of communication between the cultures. The cultural gap that was previously considered to exist between African and European culture to a large extent was not such great.
Africa was also a culturally developed area where people cultural development varied. The slave trade was not an output of any raids by Europeans bur Africans themselves were sellers of other Africans and Europeans were purchasers. Slavery was not something new for Europe as Christians and Moslems enslaved each other in wars. However, the slaves were considered the members of society and slavery was not shifted to their children. With the passage of time, Europeans were in need of labor due to which, they moved towards Africa for black gold, a term that they used of African slaves. Africans were transported to European colonies for the labor needs. Black slaves were considered the strength of English men.
Black slaves increased in number in white populations and the white population started considering that the Africans are naturally slaves. Soon, the slaves gained the status of chattels that had no rights of their own. Due to mass enslavement, the white man became more and more prejudiced racially.
I like the essay as a detailed history is given about the slavery and the practices of Europeans towards African slaves. The writer has given the detailed account of the arrival of black people in a white people’s country in a persuasive tone.
Works Cited
Nash, Gary B. “ Black People in a White Peoples Country”. Portrait of America: Volume 1 to 1877.