

Mrs. Erin Brady
Honors American Literature

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Summer Reading Assignment

Please respond to the following questions. The responses must be in complete sentence form; furthermore, the responses should be typed. Section I is due by the first day of class. The subsequent sections will be assigned as fall semester begins. The entire novel should be read even though Section I covers mostly the beginning chapters of the novel. Any questions can be sent to ebrady@bishopdwenger.com. Some responses may be only a few sentences while others may be lengthy. Have two copies with you: one to submit for grading and another to use for discussion and notes.

SECTION I: 2 COPIES DUE 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL

Chapters 1-3:

1. Why doesn't Huck get along with Miss Watson and Widow Douglas?
2. What does Huck think about religion—specifically the good place, and the bad place and prayer?
3. List two examples of superstition in this section of the novel.
4. What are the main differences between Huck and Tom?

Chapters 4-7:

1. Why did Huck give his money to Judge Thatcher?
2. Describe Pap Finn. What kind of person is he?
3. What is Huck's relationship with his father?
4. Why does Pap yell at Huck for becoming civilized?
5. What was Huck's plan of escape from his father?
6. How do you know that material things don't matter to Huck?

Chapter 8-11:

1. What purpose(s) does Huck's death serve?
2. How does Huck find Jim on Jackson's Island?
3. What is in the two story house boat that floats by?
4. Give an example of the theme man vs. society that is present in this section of the novel.
5. What bad luck did the snakeskin bring?
6. How are Huck and Jim alike?
7. What is Huck's disguise to go ashore?
8. How do you know Huck and Jim are friends by the end of Chapter XI?

Chapters 12-14:

1. Why do Huck and Jim begin their journey down the Mississippi?
2. Why do Huck and Jim board the Walter Scott?

3. Why does Huck want to save Jim Turner?
4. How does Huck convince someone to help the Walter Scott?
5. What do we learn about Jim from his talking about “King Sollermun”?

Paragraph Responses: The following two questions should be answered in paragraph form. The response should be original and insightful.

1. Since its publication, this novel has been controversial. Why is this novel so controversial?
2. Twain creates some admirable characters and some that are swindling scoundrels. Explain who Twain admires and who he dislikes.

PART II: DUE DATE AUGUST 25TH

Chapters 15-18:

1. What trick does Huck play on Jim? (on the float)
2. Why doesn't Huck turn Jim in?
3. Why don't the slave hunters find Jim?
4. Explain the differences between Huck and the slave hunters?
5. How does Huck get to the Grangerford's?
6. Why did Twain include this adventure with Grangerfords?

Chapters 19-25:

1. How did Jim and Huck meet the King and Duke?
2. Does Huck believe their story?
3. What shows the “cleverness” of the King and Duke?
4. Why did the people return to the show?
5. Why does Twain include the incident with Boggs?
6. Why do we hear about Jim's daughter “Lizabeth”?
7. Where did the King and Duke come up with the idea to impersonate the Wilks brothers?

Chapters 26-31:

1. How do the King and Duke gain possession of the money?
2. Why does Huck steal the money from the mattress?
3. Why is Huck not bothered by his conscience when he lies so much?
4. What are the tests that give away the King and Duke as frauds?
5. Why is Huck upset when Jim is sold?
6. Why is it important that Huck says, “All right then, I'll go to hell”?

Chapters 32-39:

1. Why does Huck assume Tom Sawyer's identity?
2. What happens when Tim appears on the scene?
3. What's the difference between Tom's plan to free Jim and Huck's plan?
4. How does Huck change when Tom comes?
5. Tom's plan is actually cruel. Why?
6. What do we learn about Tom in these chapters?

Chapters 40-43:

1. How does Huck appear to be superior to Tom?
2. What happens to Jim?
3. What happens to Tom?

SECTION III: DUE DATE August 29 OR September 2—tentative

Things of Significance: Identify each of the following people, places, or things. Some may need only a brief explanation; however, others may require a more detailed response.

1. Miss Watson
2. Widow Douglas
3. Miss Watson's Jim
4. Huck Finn
5. Tom Sawyer
6. Judge Thatcher
7. Grangerfords (Buck, Emiline)
8. Shepherdson
9. Colonel Sherburn
10. Boggs
11. King (Dauphin of France)
12. Duke (of Bridgewater)
13. Harvey and William Wilks
14. Peter Wilks
15. Aunt Sally
16. Uncle Silas
17. Pap Finn
18. "Royal Nonesuch"
19. Dr. Robinson
20. Mumps
21. \$6,000
22. Sara Mary Williams
23. Walter Scott
24. Mary Jane
25. Tattoo
26. Jim Turner
27. Sid
28. Phelps farm