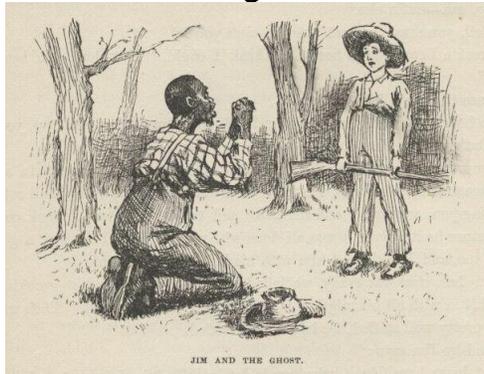


Name: _____

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Reading Guide



CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.11-12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, please answer the comprehension questions for each chapter. Additionally, in the original edition of the novel, Twain did not give titles to the individual chapters. In later editions, however, he did include titles to the various chapters. The chapter titles are written next to their corresponding chapter. Underneath the answers to your comprehension questions, please write whether or not you think this is a good title. If you agree that it is a good title, please say why. If you think the chapter should be titled something different, please include the title and give a reason to support your new title.

Chapter 1 – I Discover Moses and the Bulrushers

1. What do we know about Huck from the way he talks?
2. What is a “stretcher”?
3. Why does Mark Twain begin *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* with a reference to *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*?
4. How does Huck feel about being “civilized”?
5. “The widow she cried over me, and called me a poor lost lamb, and she called me a lot of other names, too, but she never meant no harm by it.” Exactly where does the humor of this sentence lie?
6. Why does Huck prefer “the ‘bad’ place” to “the ‘good’ place”?
7. What does Huck’s reaction to the burning of the spider show us about him?

Chapter 2 – Our Gang’s Dark Oath

1. What trick does Tom play on Jim?
2. How does Huck feel about it?
3. What difference between Tom and Huck does this suggest?
4. How does Jim react to the trick?
5. If you were going to join Tom Sawyer’s gang, what would you have to agree to do?
6. What do we learn about Tom as the head of the gang?
7. How does Ben Rogers react to the ransoming idea?

Chapter 3 – We Ambuscade the A-rabs

1. What does Huck think about praying?
2. Why does Huck decide that there must be two Providences?
3. What does Huck think of Pap?
4. Why does Huck resign from the gang?
5. Huck and Tom have very different outlooks on “A-rabs” and on “rubbing lamps.” What does this show about them?

Chapter 4 – The Hairball Oracle

1. Why does Huck “sell” his fortune to Judge Thatcher?
2. What does the “hairball” tell Jim about Huck’s future?

Chapter 5 Pap Starts in on a New Life

1. Describe Pap.
2. Is Pap believable?
3. How does pap feel about Huck going to school?
4. How does the new judge find out how Pap really is?

Chapter 6 – Pap Struggles with the Death Angel

1. Why is Huck going to school now?
2. Why does Huck enjoy living with Pap at first?
3. How does Pap feel about the “govment” and “educated niggers”?
4. Account for Pap’s unusual behavior.

Chapter 7 – I Fool Pap and Get Away

1. Why does Huck kill the pig?
2. As Huck prepares to escape, he wishes Tom Sawyer were there. “I knowed he would take an interest in this kind of business, and throw in the fancy touches.” How are Huck’s preparations different from those Tom would make?
3. Describe Huck’s emotions when he first sets out on the river.
4. Where is Huck headed?

Chapter 8 – I Spare Miss Watson’s Jim

1. Why are people firing a canon over the water?
2. What is the reason for floating bread down the river?
3. Why is Jim afraid of Huck?
4. Why has Jim run away?
5. Is there any difference between the superstition of Huck and the superstition of Jim?
6. What does the chapter suggest about civilization?
7. At this point, how would you describe Huck’s attitude toward Jim?

Chapter 9 – The House of Death Floats By

1. Why is there a house floating down the river?
2. What do Huck and Jim find in the house?

Chapter 10 – What Comes of Handlin’ Snakeskin

1. How does the snake come to be in Jim’s blanket?
2. What does Jim do for the snakebite?
3. What does Huck’s reaction show about him?
4. Why does Huck dress up like a girl?

Chapter 11 – They're After Us

1. What information does Huck get from Mrs. Judith Loftus?
2. What story does Huck tell Mrs. Loftus when she sees through his disguise?
3. What three things does Huck do that show that he is a boy?
4. Why do Huck and Jim leave Jackson's Island?

Chapter 12 – "Better Let Blame Well Alone"

1. Describe the raft and the life Huck and Jim lead when alone on it.
2. How do Huck and Jim get food?
3. Why does Huck insist on boarding the wrecked steamboat?
4. Who are Bill, Jake, and Turner?
5. What terrible discovery does Jim make at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 13 – Honest Loot from the "Walter Scott"

1. Huck and Jim escape from the *Walter Scott* in the lifeboat, leaving the murderers trapped on the wreck. How does Huck feel about leaving them?
2. How does Huck try to help the murderers?
3. What happens to the murderers?

Chapter 14- Was Solomon Wise?

1. Why does Jim decide that he doesn't want any more adventures?
2. Why does Jim "take no stock in... Sollermun being de wises' man dat ever live"?
3. Why does Huck decide that it is useless to argue with him?

Chapter 15 – Fooling Poor Old Jim

1. What do Huck and Jim plan to do when they reach Cairo?
2. Describe how Huck feels when he is alone in the fog.
3. Huck tells Jim that the separation in the fog was a dream. Why is Jim so hurt by Huck's trick?
4. Why is Huck's response to Jim's rebuke significant?

Chapter 16 – The Rattlesnake-Skin Does Its Work

1. Why is Huck so uneasy about approaching Cairo?
2. Explain what Huck calls "conscience." How does it conflict with helping Jim escape?
3. How does Huck keep the men in the skiff from checking out the raft?
4. What decision does Huck make about doing right and wrong?
5. Why do Huck and Jim have to change their plans?
6. How do Huck and Jim get separated?

Chapter 17 – The Grangerfords Take Me In

1. How does Huck solve the problem of forgetting his name?
2. What does Huck think of the Grangerfords? Of their home?
3. Huck often makes interesting observations. His comment on Emmeline Grangerford is, "I reckoned that with her disposition she was having a better time in the graveyard." What does this show about Huck?



Chapter 18 – Why Harney Rode Away For His Hat

1. What is the cause of the feud between the Grangerfords and the Sheperdsons?
2. Buck tells Huck, "There ain't a coward amongst them Sheperdsons – not a one. And there ain't no cowards amongst the Grangerfords either." What are the drawbacks to this sort of courage?
3. Why is the topic of Sunday sermon ironic?
4. What has happened to Jim since the last time Huck has seen him?
5. What does Miss Sophie do? What happens to the various Grangerfords?
6. What does Huck do?

Chapter 19 – The Duke and the Dauphin Come Aboard

1. Read aloud Huck's description of the river life that begins, "Two of three days and nights went by; I reckon I might say they swum by, they slid along so quiet and smooth and lovely." What causes Huck's new appreciation of life on the raft?
2. The peaceful interlude on the raft is disturbed by the arrival of the duke and the dauphin (the king). Describe these two rascallions.
3. Huck says, "It didn't take me long to make up my mind that these liars warn't no kings nor dukes at all, but just low-down humbugs and frauds." Why does he pretend to believe them?

Chapter 20 – What Royalty Did to Parkville

1. How do the king and duke treat Huck and Jim?
2. What does the king do at the camp-meeting?
3. How does the duke arrange for them to travel in the daytime?

Chapter 21 – An Arkansas Difficulty

1. What are the king and the duke getting read for?
2. What kind of a town is Bricksville?
3. Why ahs Boggs come to town? What do the loafers think of his threats?
4. Describe the murder of Boggs.
5. How do the townspeople react to the murder?

Chapter 22 – Why the Lynching Failed

1. Why does the lynchng fail? What does Sherburn think of the men in the mob?
2. Why does Huck enjoy the circus so much?
3. How successful is the Shakespearean Revival? How does the duke plan to get an audience for the low-comedy presentation?

Chapter 23 – The Orneriness of Kings

1. Why doesn't the audience "take care of" the king and the duke after the first performance? What happens on the third night?
2. Why is Huck amazed at Jim's mourning his home and family?
3. What does the story of 'Lizabeth show about Jim?

Chapter 24- The King Turns Parson

1. Why is Jim dressed up like a sick Arab?
2. Huck's last statement in this chapter is, "It was enough to make a body ashamed of the human race." What is Huck talking about?

Chapter 25 – All Full of Tears and Flapdoodle

1. Huck describes the tearful scene at the Wilkses as the most disgusting thing he has ever seen. Does he mean only the king's performance?
2. Why does king give the money to Mary Jane?

Chapter 26 – I Steal the King's Plunder

1. What decision does Huck make?
2. What are the plans of king give the money to Mary Jane?

Chapter 27 – Dead Peter Has His Gold

1. Where does Huck hide the gold?
2. Describe the undertaker.
3. Where is the humor in Huck's observation, "There warn't no more popular man in town than what that undertaker was"?

Chapter 28 – Overreaching Don't Pay

1. What is special about Mary Jane?
2. Why is she the only person to whom Huck tells the truth?

Chapter 29 – I Light Out in the Storm

1. Why do the men decide to dig up the corpse?
2. Huck concludes the chapter by saying, "So I wilted right down onto the planks then, and give up; and it was all I could do to keep from crying." What is bothering Huck?

Chapter 30 – The Gold Saves the Thieves

1. Why are the king and the duke fighting?
2. Why do they get back together?

Chapter 31 – You Can't Pray a Lie

1. What do the king and duke do to Jim?
2. Why does Huck write Miss Watson?
3. Why does he tear up the letter?
4. Huck has rebelled against civilization before. At Miss Watson's he smoke, played hooky, and left his room night to sleep in the woods. What is different about this decision?
5. Discuss the implications of Huck's conclusion, "All right, then, I'll go to hell"
6. Huck again encounters the duke. What happens?

Chapter 32 – I Have a New Name

1. What is Huck's new name?
2. Why is that convenient for Huck?

Chapter 33 – The Pitiful Ending of Royalty

1. Why is Huck surprised at Tom's willingness to rescue Jim?
2. Why is Tom willing to do it?
3. What new identity does Tom assume?
4. How does Huck feel when he sees the king and duke tarred and feathered? Do they deserve his pity?
5. Why is Huck so annoyed with his conscience?

Chapter 34 – We Cheer Up Jim

1. How did Tom figure out where Jim was?
2. Compare Huck's plan for freeing Jim with Tom's. What does Huck think of Tom's fancy touches? What are the dangers of Tom's approach?
3. Some critics think that Jim's rescue is an inappropriate ending to the novel. They wonder how Huck, with his new maturity, can consent to Tom's foolish schemes. Do you agree with these critics? Why or why not?

Chapter 35 – Dark, Deep-Laid Plans

1. What is the whole chapter “Dark, Deep-Laid Plans,” about?

Chapter 36 – Trying to Help Jim

1. Huck says, “When I start to steal... I ain’t no ways particular how it’s done so it’s done.” How would Tom feel about this statement?
2. Why does Jim agree to go along with everything?
3. What is Nat’s problem?

Chapter 37 – Jim Gets His Witch-Pie

1. What is the topic of conversation at the breakfast table?
2. How does Tom manage to get the things he needs for escape?
3. Describe the baking of the witch pie.

Chapter 38 – “Here a Captive Heart Busted”

1. What is the irony involved in the fetching of grindstone?
2. Why does Tom try to talk Jim into keeping a pet rattlesnake? Rats?

Chapter 39 – Tom Writes Nonnamous Letters

1. Why does Tom write anonymous letters?
2. What does he say in them?

Chapter 40 – A Mixed-Up and Splendid Rescue

1. What does Huck find when he does into the setting-room?
2. When the butter melts down Huck’s face, what does Aunt Sally think it is?
3. What one thing really goes wrong in the escape?

Chapter 41 – “Must a’ Been Sperits”

1. Why doesn’t Huck go with doctor?
2. How does he explain his absence to Uncle Silas?
3. What is Old Mrs. Hotchkiss’s theory?
4. Why doesn’t Huck go check on Tom that night?

Chapter 42 – Why They Didn’t Hang Jim

1. Why don’t they hang Jim?
2. What does the doctor think of Jim?
3. What does Tom tell Aunt Sally?
4. Why did Tom work so hard to set Jim free when he was already free?
5. Who arrives on the scene to really straighten things out?

Chapter 43 – Nothing More to Write

1. What were Tom’s plans concerning Jim after he was free?
2. What does Huck find out about his father?
3. Where is Huck bound for at the end of the novel?