

Junior Summer Reading

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

by Mark Twain

Directions – Use your computer to type the answers to the following questions:

(BE SURE TO SAVE YOUR WORK AND THEN BACK IT UP ON YOUR FLASH DRIVE.)

1. In the novel, Pap is Huck's father. However, it is clear that Jim is more of a father-figure to Huck than Pap. List three examples from the story when Jim acts like a father to Huck.
2. Violence and greed are motivations for much of the action in the novel. Discuss two examples of each that take place in the story.
3. Discuss how the river provides freedom for Huck. (Think about all of the things he dislikes when he is living on shore and has to be "civilized"...then think about the reasons he loves life on the river.)
4. Discuss three qualities Huck possesses which are necessary for survival on the river. Give specific examples from the novel that reveal these qualities. (examples...smart / quick thinker, compassionate, intuitive / realizes the truth about people, protective...etc.)
5. Explain Huck's struggle with his conscience regarding helping Jim. (...think about what Huck had been taught about slavery.)
6. In the novel, Huck comments with disapproval and even disgust about the king's lies and schemes. Yet, you have seen that Huck is a liar himself and that he often pretends to be somebody else. What difference do you see between Huck's lies and disguises and those of the king? (hint...Why does the king lie?...Why does Huck lie?)
7. Although Mark Twain, in his introductory "notice" to the novel, denies that there is a moral or motive in the story, the work itself contradicts its author. What do you think is the moral of *Huck Finn*? (Remember Huck's statement about Jim being "white inside.")
8. *Huck Finn* has been called the "Great American Novel." However, it is one of the most frequently banned books in United States. Why do you think many schools do not allow their students to read this book?

Questions are due Wednesday, August 8th.