

Huckleberry Finn Study Guide Questions

Answer each question with a complete sentence.

1. Where is the setting of the novel?
2. How did Huck end up living with the Widow Douglas?
3. Who is the narrator of the novel?
4. What other book does Huck say that he appeared in?
5. Tom and Huck at the end of Tom's book had found \$6,000.00. What happened to that money?
6. Huck makes a statement concerning the Widow Douglas: "And she took snuff, too. Of course that was all right, because she had done it herself. What does Huck mean by that statement?"
7. Huck does not want nor does he see an advantage in going where Miss Watson is going. Why?
8. What is there about Miss Watson that Huck dislikes?
9. What is Twain saying about the Widow Douglas and Miss Watson?
10. Huck accidentally kills a spider. What do we learn about Huck through this incident?

11. Does Huckleberry Finn judge any of the ladies or characters that we have met so far in this chapter?(think about this one)

Chapter 2

1. Of the two boys, Tom and Huck, which boy more nearly conforms to the rules of society?
2. What does Huck's "itching" indicate?
3. Tom Sawyer lays five cents on the table when he and Huck take three candles. What does this tell us about Tom?
4. Jim loves to tell the tale about the witches. Why?
5. What conditions are laid down to become a member of the young boys' band?
6. What problems do they encounter?
7. Tom suggests that they tie Jim to a tree; Huck said no. However, Tom hangs Jim's hat so that when Jim wakes up, he will be frightened. What does this tell us about the two boys?
8. Twain is trying to tell us something about this society through these pranks the boys play. What is it?

9. Is this robber gang part of the plot? What purposes would Twain have for including this chapter about the gang?
10. What are the differences between Tom's schemes and plans and Huck's?

Chapter 3

1. Read the first three paragraphs of the chapter. Sam Clemens is making more amusing remarks about attitudes in society at this time. Find and record three of these remarks.
2. What is it that Huck cannot understand about prayer?
3. What shows Huck as a somewhat naïve and gullible little boy?
4. Is Jim superstitious?

Chapter 4

1. What signs does Huck begin to see?
2. Why does Huck offer to give all his money to Judge Thatcher?
3. Huck consults Him. Why?

4. When Huck returns to his room that night, what does he find?

Chapter 5

1. Pap is furious with Huck. Why?

2. Why has his father come to town?

3. What does his father get from Huck and what does he do with it?

4. The next day, what does Pap try to do?

5. What attitude does the new judge take concerning Huck's father?

6. What are the results of this social experiment? (Be specific)

Chapter 6-7

1. Where is Huck?

2. What is Twain trying to tell us about society through the experiences of Huck with his father?

3. What does Huck find that gives him hope of escaping Pap?
4. Can Huck's father read?
5. Pap launches into a tirade against the government. What does this tell us about him?
6. Why doesn't Huck leave the first night when he had the chance?
7. Why did Twain include this chapter?
8. How does Pap rate himself in the social order?
9. Can a freed slave be made a slave again?
10. What happens to Huck when his Pap drinks?
11. What does Huck find on the river? Does he tell Pap? Why?
12. Give the details of how Huck escapes his father.

13. Is Huck a young boy who can adapt? Explain.

14. Huck wishes Tom were there to help him in his plan to escape. Would Tom have helped or hindered Huck?

Chapter 8

1. Where is Huck holing up?

2. How does Huck know that his escape was a success?

3. What frightens Huck?

4. Who does Huck find?

5. How did Huck's escape contribute to Jim's escape?

6. What is the purpose of this chapter? (think about this one)

7. What does Chapter 8 tell us about civilization?

8. Huck and Jim move into a cave. Why?

9. A floating house comes by the island; what did they get from the house? (be specific)

10. Why was the dead man found?

11. What is the relationship between Huck and Jim now?

12. Why the shifts in mood in this chapter?

13. What does the snake incident show?

14. What was the significance of Jim's getting bitten by the snake as a result of Huck's practical joke?