

1. Responses will vary.
2. Responses will vary but should include some of the following points: The house is furnished more elaborately than a typical country house is; it is neat and civilized, but some of the furnishings reflect a genteel bad taste (e.g., the crockery dog and cat that squeak, the ostrich feathers, and the clock that "would strike a hundred and fifty before she got tuckered out").
3. Students should note that life onshore is dangerous, violent, and dominated by hypocrisy and foolishness (such as feuding). Life on the raft is free, peaceful, and natural.
4. Students should note that on the raft, Huck and Jim go without clothes. Clothes are associated with civilization (Huck feels constrained by them) and with hypocrisy and fraud (the duke and the king dress up to defraud people).
5. Responses will vary. Students should note that Huck says he doesn't want any trouble on the raft and that he has learned from Pap that the easiest way to get along with such people (including Pap himself) is to go along with them. Students may note that Huck likes to avoid conflict, perhaps out of a well-developed survival instinct.
6. Sherburn shows complete contempt for the lynching party, claiming that there's not a real man among them. There is no indication that Twain disagrees with this point of view, although he may be exaggerating the townsmen's cowardliness.
7. Responses will vary but may include some of the following points: The circus contrasts nicely with the two spectacles devised by the duke and the king. (It also serves as a kind of comic relief after the dramatic, serious confrontation with Sherburn.) The drunken horseback rider act is an illusion, just like the acts of the duke and the king, but the former is based on art rather than a desire to cheat. Huck's naive response to the circus also reminds us that he is both literal minded and still a young boy.

8. Responses will vary, but students should note that Huck sees no difference—real royalty are just scoundrels on a slightly grander scale than the duke and the king. Although Twain has fun with Huck's blend of fact and fancy in his history of kings, there is enough true cruelty on the part of historical royalty to suggest that Twain shares Huck's opinion.
9. Responses are personal and need not be shared.
10. Responses will vary. Students may parody, for example, the passions of a soap opera, the banalities of pop music lyrics, or the obscurities of post modernism.

■ Reading Strategies

Understanding Style

(Responses will vary. Sample responses follow.)

Colloquial Language: "Then we set out the lines"; "they've left dead fish laying around"; "they do get pretty rank"; "it made you feel crawly"; "I didn't go much on clothes, nohow"; "well, that looked kind of reasonable, so I didn't say nothing against it."

Poetic Language:

Sight—"little dark spots drifting along"; "you see the mist curl up off the water"; "the east reddens up"; "you'd see the ax flash and come down"; "the sky up there, all speckled with stars"; "steamboat slipping along in the dark"; "belch a whole world of sparks up out of her chimbleys"; "her lights would wink out."

Sound—"slid along so quiet"; "bullfrogs a-cluttering"; "sweep screaming; or jumbled-up voices"; "steamboat coughing along upstream"; "then you hear the k'chunk!"; "you could hear a fiddle or a song coming over."

Smell or Touch—"smooth"; "set down on the sandy bottom"; "cool and fresh and sweet to smell"; "dangled our legs in the water"; "belch a whole world of sparks."

FOLLOW-UP: Responses will vary. Successful responses will include examples from the diagram.

■ Making Meanings

READING CHECK

- a. Emmeline was obsessed with death.
- b. He is taken to Jim by one of the Grangerford slaves. He discovers that Jim is repairing the raft.
- c. He claims to be a reformed pirate who wants money to go back and save the souls of the other pirates.
- d. He prints up a poster describing Jim as a runaway slave. They would pretend to be returning him to his owner.
- e. He shoots and kills him.
- f. It is a show that the king and the duke perform. The king, naked and painted in rainbow colors, prances onstage. The townspeople do not like the show.
- g. Jim tells Huck that he struck Elizabeth for not obeying him. He did not know the scarlet fever had left her deaf.

First Thoughts

1. What are your first impressions of the duke and the king? Do you consider them harmless fools or dangerous criminals?

Shaping Interpretations

2. How do the furnishings of the Grangerford house **satirize** the inhabitants?
3. At the end of Chapter XVIII, Huck says, "You feel mighty free and easy and comfortable on a raft." How would you contrast Twain's depictions of life on-shore with life on the raft so far?
4. How do Huck and Jim dress on the raft? What do their clothes convey about the **theme** of civilization versus nature?
5. Huck knows that the duke and the king are frauds from the beginning and decides to "let them have their own way." What does this reveal about Huck's **character**?
6. What is Sherburn's attitude toward the men who are attempting to lynch him? What do you think Twain's attitude is toward the townspeople?
7. Why, in your opinion, does Twain include a description of the circus in Chapter XXII? How would you compare the circus with the entertainment provided by the duke and the king?
8. What connection does Huck see between the duke and the king and real royalty? What do you think Twain's opinion is?

Connecting with the Text

9. Huck decides to go along with the duke and the king even after he realizes that they are frauds. Have you ever made a similar decision, and why or why not?

READING CHECK

- a. In what theme was Emmeline Grangerford most interested?
- b. While staying with the Grangerfords, how does Huck rediscover Jim? What else does he discover?
- c. How does the king dupe the people at the camp meeting?
- d. How does the duke arrange for the raft to float by day?
- e. What does Colonel Sherburn do to Boggs?
- f. What is the "Royal Nonesuch"? What is the townspeople's response to it?
- g. What does Jim tell Huck about his daughter Elizabeth?

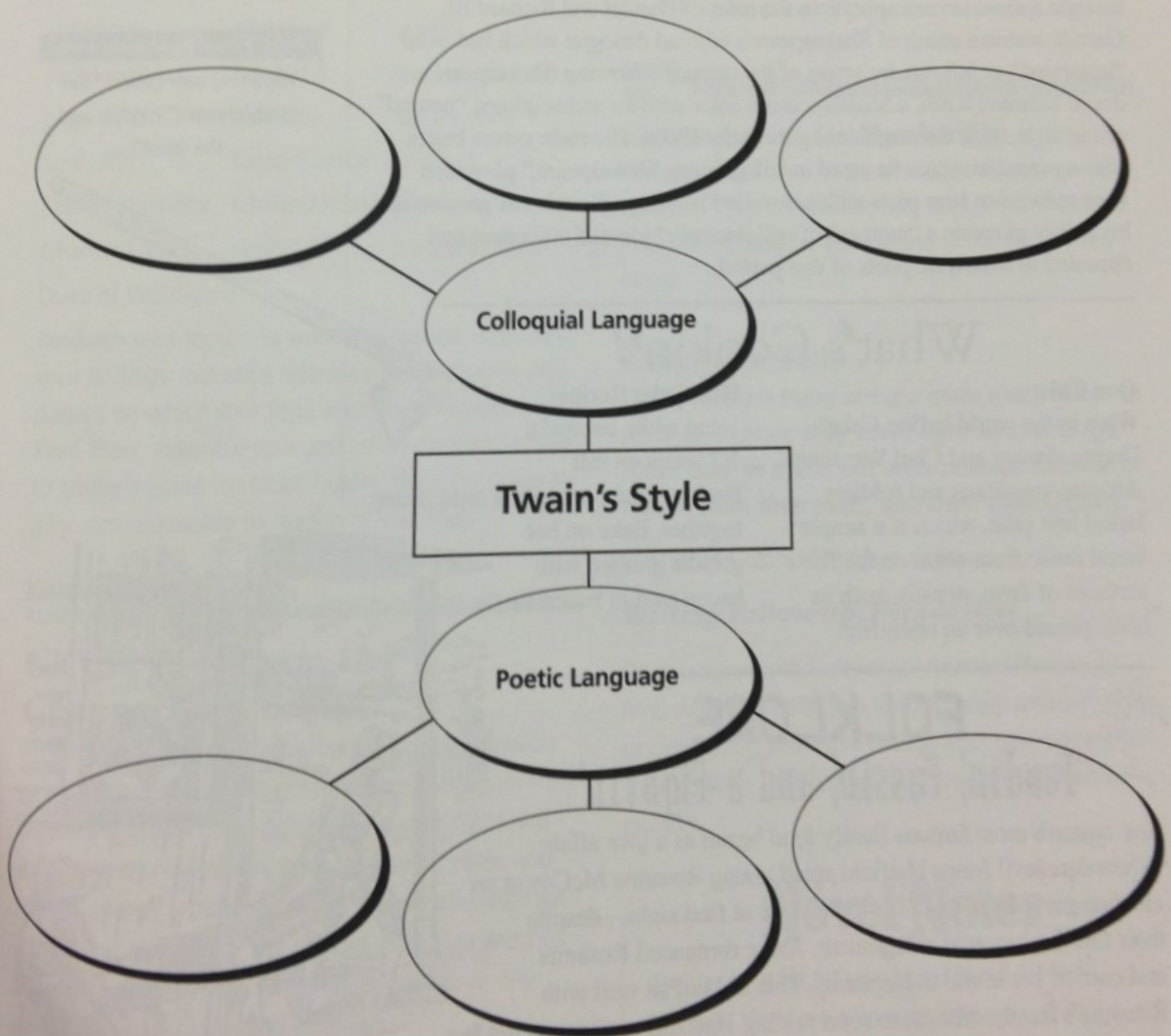
Reading Strategies: Chapters XVII–XXIII

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Understanding Style

One of the unique aspects of Twain's style is his mixture of colloquial language—everyday spoken language—and descriptive, poetic language that appeals to the senses. That mixture is most evident in passages where Huck is describing the beauty and serenity of life on the river.

Reread the beginning of Chapter XIX (pages 118–120). Then, fill in the cluster diagram below. First, give three examples of colloquial words or phrases. Then, give three examples of poetic language: one word or phrase that appeals to sight, one that appeals to sound, and one that appeals to smell or touch.



FOLLOW-UP: What do Huck's words and descriptions tell you about his values—the things he appreciates and enjoys? Write a paragraph using examples from the diagram above.