***Huck Finn***

**Episode 1—Chapters 1-7 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Name \_\_\_\_\_ Pd**

**\*Due after ch 7 on day of QUIZ**

**\*\*Tom and Huck find a treasure ($6k a piece); Judge Thatcher keeps Huck’s money safe in a trust**

**Reading the text**

1. What do the Widow Douglass and Miss Watson do to “sivilize” Huck? Give 3 examples.

* They teach him lessons about the Bible and spelling
* They make him sit up straight and say prayers
* They make him wear clothes and shoes
* They forbid him to smoke
* They discourage him from hanging out with Tom Sawyer

1. After Tom Sawyer plays a trick on Jim, what does Jim think has happened?

Witches cast a spell on him—story gets more elaborate each time he tells it—gains him fame and notoriety amongst the other slaves—H uck is critical of the slaves’ superstitions (ironic)

1. How does Huck know that the drowned man is not Pap?

* The body is found face up (no drowning)
* Evidence that Pap Finn is back in town (boot with a cross etched in it outside the Widow Douglas’ property)

1. What do Tom’s gang actually do when they raid the “Spanish merchants and rich A-rabs”?

Raid a Sunday school picnic—taking the little kids’ lunches

1. What does Huck do with his money to keep it from Pap?

Huck has given his share of the money to Judge Thatcher for safe keeping; signs it over to the Judge for $1—you can infer that Judge Thatcher does not take the kid’s money but rather, is legally keeping it until Huck can withdraw from the account/use the money

1. Where does Huck’s father take him?

To a cabin in the woods on the Illinois side of the Mississippi

1. Explain the steps Huck takes to escape his father once and for all.

* Uses a saw to cut a hole in the bottom logs of the cabin/ covers it with a cloth to conceal it
* Gathers and hides provisions in a canoe; stows canoe in the bushes
* When Pap goes to town, Huck makes it look like someone broke into the cabin—breaks down door with an axe and ransacks the inside
* Kills a wild pig and smears the blood all over the cabin (including the axe); leaves a trail of blood and rocks leading to the lake
* Hides in the bottom of the canoe and sets sail

**Interpreting the text**

1. Huck often refers to himself in negative ways, calling himself “low down” and “ornery.” Based on what you have seen of him so far, do you agree? Why do you think he has such a low opinion of himself?

His opinion of himself is based on what the adults in his life have always told him—most of his self has been built around negative feedback (Pap and Miss Watson); when he hears good things about himself, he is reluctant to believe (Widow Douglas/ Judge Thatcher)

1. How would you compare the characters of Miss Watson and Widow Douglas? Who seems to be painted in a more favorable light?

The Widow Douglas is characterized as kinder/gentler and more patient with Huck; Miss Watson is the stern, critical task-master; Miss Watson often tells Huck he is “bad” and “wicked” and that he is going to Hell for his behavior

1. How would you CONTRAST the characters of Huck and Tom? Provide 3 examples of how the friends differ.

Huck

* Grew up in poverty, without a mother and with an abusive father
* No family money
* No formal education
* Highly superstitious
* Highly imaginative (from his own brain)/highly intelligent
* Somewhat of a follower—doesn’t like conflict with others

Tom

* Grew up in a wealthy/comfortable family
* Family money plus money from the treasure
* Formally educated (reads a great deal)
* Highly imaginative (ideas are borrowed from books)
* Natural leader; likes to be in charge; antagonizes others

1. How does the physical description of Pap in Chapter V also serve to describe his character?

**His physical description (unnaturally white skin, long, black greasy hair, “shining eyes” and discheveled appearance) is meant to compliment his despicable attitude and harsh treatment of Huck**—he is mean, a bully—he is angered over Huck’s situation (his comfy surroundings, his nice clothes) and his education (insults Huck’s ability to read); tries to make Huck feel guilty for being educated and ’putting on airs” over his own family

1. What does Pap Finn criticize about the government? How do you think Twain wants his reader to feel about these issues? What does the satire of this scene add to the message?

\*\* Satire—Pap is drunk, stumbling about the cabin, covered head to toe in mud—Twain is commenting about the flawed logic behind racism, entitlement—taking responsibility for the things in your own life

* Courts/custody
* Huck’s Money—sees it as his own property and blames the govt. for keeping it from him
* His “rights” being kept from him
* The “mulatto” with fine clothes and a gold watch—angered that this man is more educated than he his (a professor in a college) and that he can vote—Pap feels that the man should be sold into slavery and sees that as a govt. fault that he isn’t

**Extending beyond the text**

1. Based on Huck’s behaviors and choices in chapters 1-7, and according to Kohlberg’s theories, which stage of moral development is Huck in? Can his behavior apply to more than one stage? How does his moral development inform his choices?

Based on his behaviors and interactions with the Widow Douglas, Miss Watson, and Tom Sawyer, Huck is currently at the 1st stage of Kohlberg’s developmental chart. Huck fears punishment and is motivated by rewards.