***Huck Finn***

Episode: Chapters 8-16 www.loudlit.org/huckfinn

\*Due after chapter 16 on day of quiz

**Reading Check**

1. Ch 8--Why has Jim run away from Miss Watson? Despite life being “pretty rough” with Miss Watson, Jim’s life as a slave is still considerably better living with the old women than living down South. He overhears her talking to a slave trader who offers her $800 to sell Jim down to New Orleans; if he is sold down South, he will be auctioned off for field work/hard manual labor

\*notes—Jim runs away on the same day Huck disappears

\*\*On the island with Jim is the first time Huck feels both *safe and free*

1. Ch 9--What does Jim discover in the house floating down the river?

They discover a naked, dead man (Jim conceals his face) shot in the back—1840’s—it is possibly a brothel—appears as though a burglary gone wrong

1. Ch 11--How does Mrs. Loftus figure out that Huck is not a girl?

**Notes—Huck learns from Mrs. Loftus: Pap is a suspect in his murder, but hasn’t been seen since the initial search ($200 reward); Jim is also a suspect as he ran away on the same day as the murder ($300 reward); men are going to search Jackson’s Island**

**\*\*“They’re After US.” (pg 63)**

* “Sarah Williams” from Hookerville
* “Mary Williams”/ “Sarah Mary Williams”
* He won’t remove his bonnet
* Threading the needle
* Huck’s throwing arm—too strong and too accurate
* Mrs. Loftus drops the lead in Huck’s lap—he claps his legs shut

1. How do Huck and Jim escape from the wrecked steamboat (the Walter Scott)?

They steal the robbers’ skiff (boat) after their raft is lost; feeling guilty, Huck notifies the harbormaster that people are aboard the Walter Scott

1. What is Huck and Jim’s plan to reach safe territory?

Ch 15—they plan to sail their raft to Cairo (bottom of Illinois) where the Ohio meets with the Mississippi—there, they will board a steamboat and go up the Ohio to the free states

1. What is Jim’s response to Huck’s trick after they are separated in the fog? Ch 15

He scolds Huck—tells him that he is “trash” for treating a friend that way. Makes him realize that class has nothing to do with the amount of money you have, or who your family is, but how YOU BEHAVE and treat other. HUCK APOLOGIZES.

1. How do Huck and Jim know they have passed Cairo?

They begin to suspect that they passed by it the night of the thick fog—they ask a local and their fears are confirmed

**Interpretations**

1. In what ways is Jim’s character different in chapters 8 and 9 from when we first see him in Ch 2?

In the chapters on Jackson’s Island, Twain develops Jim as more of a fatherly-figure. He is protective and nurturing towards Huck. He provides Huck with both safety and freedom—something Huck has never had living with Pap or the Widow Douglas.

1. Why does Huck Finn try to save the murderers who are on board the sinking Walter Scott? What does this reveal about his character?

* Huck doesn’t want to be responsible for their deaths, even if they are criminals and “no good”—developing morality? Willingness to buck society’s judgment? HE is beginning to determine for himself, what he sees as right and wrong; moral and immoral—and to Huck, allowing these criminals to die is not worth it, no matter what wrongs they committed in life
* He lies to the harbormaster, claiming the people stranded on the Walter Scott are relatives of Jim Hornback (wealthiest man in town) as motivation for this man to help—Huck knows that people are motivated by money $$$

1. Why do you think Jim is so vehement in his dislike of King Solomon? What does his stance reveal about his character?

Jim focuses on Solomon’s wastefulness and his lack of appreciation for people and things—he claims that people who were born into EVERYTHING tend to value very little, whereas people born into NOTHING (Jim), value and appreciate more

1. What is the principle conflict in Huck’s mind about Jim?

Huck’s conflict about Jim is rooted in his society and his upbringing. He has been taught that Jim “belongs” to Miss Watson—that he is her “property.” And despite his growing love of Jim, that concept is deeply ingrained. In helping Jim, he feels he is wronging Miss Watson—that he is “stealing” from her.

1. What is Huck’s response to Jim’s plans to steal his own children after he reaches freedom? How is this response ironic? How is Twain using Huck’s response to satirize a society that allows slavery?

When Jim mentions he plans to take his wife and children back, Huck also views this as stealing another man’s property. IRONIC—ABSURD—the notion the Jim would need to steal his family back—when he, and they, were stolen to begin with