

Standards: 1, 3, 7, 8, 12

Task: Analyzing Huck Finn

As a group, discuss the following question. You will present the answers and selected quotes to the class on the overhead. The most important thing your group is to be doing is discussing these questions within the context of the book. This means that you are answering them with quotes as proof for your answers.

Group #1

Satire is used to critically view something in society by poking fun at it in literature, TV, etc. Twain satirizes many things in Huck Finn.

Discuss the kinds of things (People, places, beliefs, society) Twain satirizes in the novel. Is he effective?

Group #2

Discuss the different ways in which Huck portrays small-town life. What are the differences and similarities between the places he visits and travels?

Group #3

Discuss the different ways in which Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn are different or similar. Make sure you give specific evidence from the text.

Group #4

Discuss the ways in which Huck is weak (immature). Then discuss ways in which he is strong (mature). Make sure you give specific examples from the text.

Group #5

Discuss the different roles that women play in the novel. Make sure you name characters and give examples from the text.

Group #6

Discuss the different tricks that Huck uses in the novel. Which tricks does he play to help people? Which tricks does he play to hurt people?

Group #7

What aspects of Huck's personality make him a good, trustworthy narrator (or, the person who tells the story?) What aspects of his personality make him an untrustworthy narrator? Give examples from the text.

Rubric:

To earn an "A," your response must

- be well-thought out, insightful, and organized,
- thoroughly answer all questions,
- clearly present information,
- use at least three quotes for support

To earn a "B," your response must

- be logical and organized,
- answer all questions well,
- present information adequately,
- use at least three quotes for support

To earn a "C," your response must

- be fairly organized and coherent,
- adequately answer questions,
- present information sufficiently
- use two quotes for support

To earn a "D," your response must

- be unorganized and somewhat coherent,
- fail to adequately answer questions,
- present information inadequately,
- use one quote for support

To earn an "F," your response must

- be poorly organized, sloppy, and show little to no effort,
- fail to adequately answer questions,
- present information unacceptably,
- uses no quotes to support answer.