

***Huckleberry Finn* Reading Schedule**

Interspersed with these readings will be discussion, various activities, and Antholio work.

Please keep up with the readings, however, so you can contribute to class discussions.

You may, of course, read ahead and reread too.

Reading 1—Chaps 1-6 (23 pages, on tape in class, ca 80 minutes) Discuss on _____

Reading 2—Chaps 7-8 (ca. 14 pages, escape from Pap, meeting Jim, and starting out)_____

Reading 3—Chaps 9-11 (ca. 12 pages, the wreck, raft, rattlesnake, re-birth, Judith Loftus)_____

Reading 4—Chaps 12-14 (ca 14 pgs, making a home, *Walter Scott* adventure, language laughs)_____

Reading 5—Chaps 15-16 (ca 12 pages, fog and trash, slave traders, writer's block. We'll read and discuss these chapters in class, ca 40 minutes)

Reading 6—Chaps 17-20 (ca. 30 pages, Along with this reading we will see a **video clip** that touches on this portion of the novel: Grangerford/Shepherdson feud, entrance of the Duke and King and their pirate scam. The video isn't totally true to the novel, but you'll get the "feel" of it. The novel is better than the video.) Discuss on _____

Reading 7—Chaps 21-23 (ca 17 pages. Shakespeare scam, Boggs/Sherburn/mobs, circus, mangled history, Jim's daughter. **I'll read the highlights as we think and comment in class**)

Reading 8—Chaps 24-27, 28-30 (ca. 40 pages, The Wilks scam. the plot grows darker)_____

Reading 9—Chap 31-32 (12 pages on tape in class; Important! The turning point)

Reading 10 (optional)—Chaps 33-42 (ca. 50 pages) A number of critics don't like this last section of the novel which mainly concerns Tom Sawyer's crazy "by the book" adventure of rescuing Jim. It illustrates Huck's pragmatic character as a foil for Tom's silliness. Jim's noble character remains and society's foolishness is still in full flourish. I'd love for you to read it and share your opinion.

Relating in Writing to *Huckleberry Finn*

These are topics that Twain touched on in *Huck Finn*. **Choose one** of them to write on using all the creativity, strong verbs, specific and concrete detail, smooth syntax, and organization skill that you can muster. These pieces may be done as poetry or as prose and may be turned in anytime during our study of *Huck Finn*. You may, of course, do more than one if you wish.

1. Write a descriptive narrative about one of your extravagant childhood adventures.
2. Describe some of your childhood beliefs that turned out to be fantasies. (You could set up these first two using the Simple Essay format if you wish)
3. Make up your original and/or summarize the accepted origin of several superstitions that interest you. Write them in a creative way.
4. Huck and Jim caught a 6' 2" 200 pound catfish with a rabbit for bait. Tell your own "fish story" or make up an astounding tall tale.
5. Summarize Huck's feelings about school and compare/contrast them to your feelings about school.
6. Describe a place that means to you what the river and raft meant to Huck.
7. Discuss some modern day feuds in light of Twain's ideas on feuds and mobs.
8. Describe some modern day "Dukes and Kings" and their scams or describe a wonderful Huck/Jim type relationship that you know about or have had.
9. Write about some turning points, realizations, and/or maturing experiences in your life or about a time you were involved in a major struggle with your conscience, or a time you "felt like trash" as Huck did after he hurt Jim's feelings.
10. Plan and describe your colorful, utterly redundant and silly Tom Sawyer-like rescue/escape from HarrellLand. You will have to actually read chapters 33-42 to do this one.