SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS - Huckleberry Finn

Chapters 1-3

- 1. Identify: Huck Finn, Tom Sawyer, Jim, Miss Watson and Widow Douglas.
- 2. Why doesn't Huck get along with Miss Watson and Widow Douglas?
- 3. What does Huck think about religion -- specifically the good place, the bad place and prayer?
- 4. Give at least two examples of superstition in this section of the novel.
- 5. Contrast Huck and Tom. What are their main differences?

Chapters 4-7

- 1. Why did Huck give his money to Judge Thatcher?
- 2. Describe Pap Finn. What kind of a person is he?
- 3. What is Huck's attitude towards his father?
- 4. Why does Pap yell at Huck for becoming civilized? Is he right?
- 5. What was Huck's plan of escape from his father?
- 6. How do you know that material things don't matter to Huck?

Chapters 8 - 11

- 1. What purpose(s) does Huck's death serve?
- 2. How does Huck meet Jim on Jackson's Island? Why is Jim there?
- 3. What is in the two story house that floats by?
- 4. Give three examples of Man vs. Society in this section.
- 5. How are the townspeople superstitious? Jim? Huck? Give examples.
- 6. Compare/contrast Huck & Jim.
- 7. Why does Huck dress as a girl to go ashore? Why does he go? What does he find out?
- 8. How do you know Huck and Jim are friends by the end of Chapter XI?

Chapters 12-14

- 1. Why do Huck and Jim begin their journey down the Mississippi?
- 2. Why do Huck and Jim board the Walter Scott?
- 3. Why does Huck want to save Jim Turner?
- 4. How does Huck send help to the Walter Scott?
- 5. What do we learn about Jim from his talking about "King Sollermun"?

Chapters 15-18

- 1. What trick does Huck play on Jim?
- 2. Why doesn't Huck turn in Jim?
- 3. Why don't the slave hunters get Jim?
- 4. Explain the differences between Huck and the hunters.
- 5. What is the bad luck in Chapter 16?
- 6. How does Huck get to the Grangerfords?
- 7. Why did Twain include this adventure with the Grangerfords?

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Chapters 19-25

- 1. How did Jim and Huck meet the king and duke?
- 2. Does Huck believe their story?
- 3. Give two examples of the "cleverness" of the king and duke.
- 4. Why did the people return to the show?
- 5. What's the point of the incident of the shooting of Boggs?
- 6. Why do we hear about Jim's daughter "'Lizabeth"?
- 7. Where did the king and duke get their plan about being the Wilks brothers?

Chapters 26-31

- 1. How do the king and duke get the money?
- 2. Why does Huck steal the money from the mattress?
- 3. Why doesn't Huck's conscience bother him when he lies so much?
- 4. What things give away the king and duke?
- 5. Why is Huck upset when Jim is sold?
- 6. Why it is important that Huck says, "All right, then, I'll go to hell."?

Chapters 32-39

- 1. Why does Huck assume Tom Sawyer's identity?
- 2. What happens when Tom appears on the scene?
- 3. What's the difference between Tom's plan for freeing Jim and Huck's?
- 4. How does Huck change when Tom comes?
- 5. Tom's plan is actually cruel. Why?
- 6. What more do we learn about Tom in these chapters?

Chapters 40-43

- 1. How does Huck appear to be superior to Tom?
- 2. What happens to Jim? Huck? Tom?
- 3. Is there anything left undecided at the end of the novel?