



English 3B: American Literature and Composition  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain  
Reading Guide Chapters 17-24 (XVII-XXIV)



Chapters 17-18

1. Whom does Huck pretend to be when he arrives at the Grangerford plantation?

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2. Why are the Grangerfords and Shepherdsons feuding?

3. What is ironic about the Grangerford and Shepherdson feud? Cite at least three examples of irony with page numbers.

a.

b.

c.

4. How does Buck's death at the end of the Grangerford-Shepherdson feud serve as a symbolic death for Huck?

## Chapters 19-24

1. Who comes aboard the raft in chapter 19? Who do they pretend to be? Who are they really?
2. Describe what happens at the Parkville (Pokeville) camp meeting. What does this episode suggest about human nature?
3. What does the following quote suggest about the people who live in the town begin described?  
  
“Such a town as that has to always be moving back, and back, and back, because the river’s always gnawing at it” (XXI, 136).
4. Why do the people in the aforementioned town want to lynch Colonel Sherburn?
5. Why does the mob fail to lynch Colonel Sherburn?
6. What might Twain be satirizing in the episode with Colonel Sherburn and the lynch mob?
7. Describe the episode with the circus-show drunk. What lesson does Huck learn during this episode? What might Twain be satirizing?

8. Despite the crowd's disappointment with the Royal Nonesuch on its opening night, why do people keep coming to see the show? What might Twain be satirizing?
  
9. What happens on the last night of the Royal Nonesuch?
  
10. How did Jim discover that his daughter was deaf and mute? What does this story reveal about Jim?
  
11. How do the king and the duke fix it so they can travel during the day?
  
12. At the conclusion of chapter twenty-four, what was "enough to make a body ashamed of the human race"?