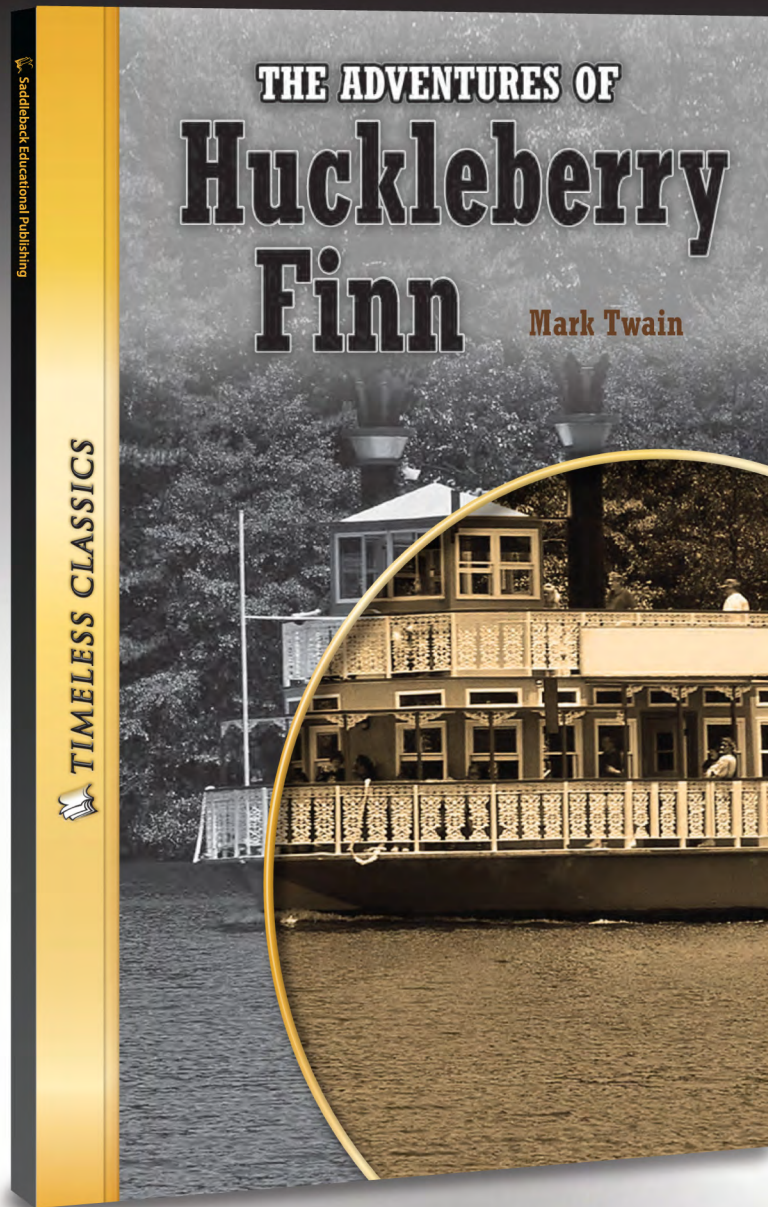


 *TIMELESS CLASSICS*

# STUDY GUIDE



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## TIMELESS CLASSICS

### NOTES TO THE TEACHER

#### THE NOVELS

*Timeless Classics* were expressly designed to help struggling readers gain access to some of the world’s greatest literature. While retaining the essence and stylistic “flavor” of the original, each novel has been expertly adapted to a reading level that never exceeds grade 4.0.

An ideal introduction to later investigations of the original works, *Timeless Classics* utilize a number of strategies to ensure the involvement of struggling readers: airy, uncomplicated page design; shortened sentences; easy-reading type style; elimination of archaic words and spellings; shortened total book length; and handsome illustrations.

To further engage struggling readers, some of our *Timeless Classics* titles are available in a new and exciting graphic format, which can bridge literacies and build complex reading skills—a perfect opportunity for differentiation.

#### THE STUDY GUIDES

The *Timeless Classics Study Guides* provide a wealth of reproducible support materials to help students extend the learning experience. Features include critical background notes on both the author and the times, character descriptions, chapter summaries, and eight “universal” exercises that may be used for any *Timeless Classic* or *Saddleback Illustrated Classic*.

In addition to the universal exercises, 26 title-specific activities are included to review, test, or enrich the student’s grasp of important vocabulary and concepts. These reproducible worksheets are designed to be used chapter-by-chapter as the student’s reading of the novel proceeds. At least two exercises are provided for each book chapter. One of the two always focuses on key vocabulary. The other may be a simple comprehension check or present an important literary concept.

Research shows that the most effective way to improve comprehension is to teach students strategies. The foundation of any comprehension strategy requires knowledge of the skills found in these activities including: main idea, noting details, drawing conclusions, finding the sequence, cause and effect, making inferences, and more. A two-page final exam is also included in every *Timeless Classics Study Guide*.

#### USING THE STUDY GUIDES

Before assigning any of the reproducible exercises, be sure your students each have a personal copy of the *Glossary* and the *Facts About the Author* and *About the Times*. By organizing the reading process in this way, you will be able to set a purpose for reading and activate prior knowledge. The *Facts About the Author* and *About the Times* lend themselves to any number of writing or research projects you may wish to assign. To further preview the novel, you may wish to review the *Facts About the Characters*. Students will also need to be familiar with many of the literary terms in order to complete the worksheets.

The title-specific exercises may be used as a springboard for class discussions and role-playing. Alternatively, you may wish to assign some exercises as homework and others during the closing minutes of a class period.

All exercises in this Guide are designed to accommodate independent study as well as group work. The occasional assignment of study partners or competitive teams often enhances interest and promotes creativity. Oral language activities, such as paraphrasing or summarizing a part of the story, provide an intervention opportunity to strengthen oral language skills and, in turn, strengthen reading skills.



## THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN FACTS ABOUT THE AUTHOR

### MARK TWAIN (1835–1910)

#### EARLY LIFE

Born in the tiny Missouri town of Florida in 1835, Mark Twain was born Samuel Langhorne Clemens. From his youth he was a charming, natural-born storyteller who cared little for form or rules of style. His best work drew on his boyhood experiences along the Mississippi River. Hannibal, Missouri, the town where he grew up, was the setting for two of his most famous novels, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and his masterpiece, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

As a young man, Clemens learned the printing trade and worked as a steamboat pilot until the Civil War ended riverboat traffic. He then began to travel across the country, working as a newspaperman, humorist, lecturer, and writer. He received some attention with publication of his short story, “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.” But it was his first

published book, *The Innocents Abroad*, that gave Mark Twain a place in American literature and enough financial security to get married.

At the age of 28, Clemens took his pen name, Mark Twain, from river slang for “two fathoms deep.” Among his other notable works are the three novels, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*, *Life on the Mississippi*, and *The Prince and the Pauper*.

Twain’s greatest gifts were humor, the common touch, and the ability to imitate any style of speech.

Mark Twain died in 1910. Some of his last essays, however, were not found and published until 1962.

---

#### FACTS ABOUT THE TIMES

##### **In 1835, when Mark Twain was born...**

Halley’s Comet appeared, Hans Christian Andersen published his first collection of children’s stories, Victor Hugo’s *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* was a bestseller, Andrew Jackson was President of the United States.

##### **In 1884, when *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* was published...**

The Brooklyn Bridge was opened to traffic, Buffalo Bill organized his first Wild West Show, gold was discovered in South Africa,

Grover Cleveland was elected President of the United States.

##### **In 1910, when Mark Twain died...**

Halley’s Comet made its first appearance since Twain’s birth 75 years before, the tango was becoming a popular dance in the United States, Florence Nightingale died, Jack Johnson defeated Jim Jeffries for the U.S. heavyweight boxing title.



## THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN FACTS ABOUT THE CHARACTERS

### **HUCKLEBERRY FINN**

A freespirted 12-year-old boy who lives in a small town on the Mississippi River

### **TOM SAWYER**

Huck's close friend who lives in the same town and shares many of Huck's adventures

### **AUNT POLLY**

The aunt with whom Tom Sawyer lives

### **WIDOW DOUGLAS**

a kindly woman in town who takes Huck into her home

### **MISS WATSON**

Sister of the Widow Douglas; a cranky old lady who owns Jim, a slave

### **JUDGE THATCHER**

A respected man in town who safeguards money belonging to Tom and Huck

### **JIM**

Miss Watson's good-hearted slave; Huck's traveling companion

### **PAP**

Huck's drunken, cruel father who is found dead in a floating house

### **WOMAN IN THE SHACK**

Tells Huck that people suspect the runaway slave of murdering Huckleberry Finn

### **THE SLAVE-CATCHERS**

Men who make money by returning escaped slaves to their owners

### **THE GRANGERFORDS**

A kindly family that takes Huck in; they are feuding with the Shepherdsons

### **BUCK GRANGERFORD**

A boy about Huck's age

### **JACK**

The Grangerfords' slave

### **THE KING AND THE DUKE**

Two crooks, or rapsallions, who try to involve Huck in some of their thieving schemes

### **PETER WILKS**

A man who has died, leaving three daughters

### **MARY JANE WILKS**

The daughter who is fooled by the Duke and the King

### **HARVEY AND WILLIAM WILKS**

Peter's brothers; the girls' uncles

### **SALLY AND SILAS PHELPS**

Tom Sawyer's aunt and uncle

### **THE DOCTOR**

Man who treats Tom's bullet wound and speaks up for Jim

# THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN

## CHAPTER SUMMARIES

### CHAPTER 1

Huckleberry Finn introduces himself as a character readers may have met in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. As this story begins, Huck has recently gone to live with the Widow Douglas and her sister, Miss Watson. He says the two women are both “bent on civilizing” him, and complains about Miss Watson’s continual nagging. One night Tom Sawyer signals Huck to come out for an adventure, and the two boys pull a trick on Miss Watson’s slave, Jim. Later that night they join some other boys in a secret “band of robbers,” and enjoy “playing robber” for about a month. One night, returning home from play, Huck is shocked to find his long lost father, Pap, waiting in his room.

### CHAPTER 2

Pap, as always, is looking for money to buy whiskey. After criticizing Huck for going to school and learning to read, Pap leaves but returns in a day or two and takes Huck to a shack upriver where he locks him up for a time. Huck fakes his own murder and runs away when Pap gets drunk and beats him once too often. He takes some supplies from Pap’s shack and paddles off in a canoe to Jackson’s Island. When he sees a ferryboat go by, booming a cannon, he knows that they are looking for his body. Crawling deeper into the woods, Huck is surprised to find a man, rolled in blankets, sleeping by a campfire.

### CHAPTER 3

Huck quickly discovers that the man on the island is Jim, Miss Watson’s slave. Jim

tells Huck that he ran away because he overheard Miss Watson talking about selling him. After a big storm, Huck and Jim see a small house floating down the river. Inside, Jim finds a dead man, but won’t let Huck look at him. They take a few supplies from the floating house and go back to the island. One day, wearing girl’s clothes he got from the floating house, Huck goes into town to scout for any further news about Jim’s escape or his own “murder.” He meets a woman who accidentally alerts him that her husband is planning to search Jackson’s Island for the runaway slave. Huck hurries back to warn Jim.

### CHAPTER 4

Huck and Jim, rafting by night and hiding by day in order to avoid slave-catchers, head for Cairo, Illinois. There, since Illinois is a free state, Jim would be able to live as a free man. On the way, they run into two slave-catchers. Huck prevents them from inspecting the raft by pretending that his family on board may have smallpox. Out of pity, the slave-catchers give him money. When Huck realizes that the raft has passed by Cairo in the fog, they face another calamity: A steamboat rams into the raft. When Huck bobs up out of the water, he can’t find Jim.

### CHAPTER 5

When Jim doesn’t show up, Huck swims to the bank and begins walking. Soon he comes to the Grangerfords’ house and is kindly invited to stay. He discovers that the Grangerfords are in a longtime feud with a

## TIMELESS CLASSICS

### LITERARY GLOSSARY

**action** what happens in a story; the acts or events that take place

The war story was full of battle action.

**author** the writer of a book, story, article, etc.

Ernest Hemingway was an American author.

**author's purpose** the author's specific goal or reason for writing a certain book

In that novel, the author's purpose was to make readers laugh.

**character** a fictional person who plays a part in a story or novel

Long John Silver is an important character in *Treasure Island*.

**classic** excellent artwork, novel, painting, symphony, etc. that remains popular over many years

Norman Mailer's *The Naked and the Dead* has become an American classic

**climax** the outcome of the novel's main conflict

The capture of the criminal was the climax of the detective story.

**conclusion** the resolution of all plot conflicts, bringing the story to a close

That play's conclusion was very satisfying. Every conflict was resolved.

**conflict** The struggle between characters or forces at the center of the story

The conflict was resolved when the suspect confessed.

**description** the parts of a story or novel that tell about the appearance of the setting or characters

His description of the Alps was breathtaking.

**dialogue** words spoken by the characters in a novel, story, or play

The dialogue in that comedy is very witty and amusing.

**effect** in literature, an impression created by the writer

Murder mysteries often create a suspenseful, chilling effect.

**event** a specific occurrence; something that happens

A plane crash is the first event in that adventure novel.

**fiction** a literary work in which the plot and characters are the products of the author's imagination

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* is a popular work of fiction.

**figurative language** colorful wording not meant to be taken literally, but to form a colorful, sharp picture in the mind

A "screaming" headline may be set in large type, but it makes no sound at all.

**imagery** figures of speech that help the reader to visualize the characters or setting; pictures in words

In Stephen Crane's imagery, the color of blood suggests courage.

**introduction** a short reading that presents and explains a novel; sometimes the first part of a novel that sets the scene

The introduction to *Frankenstein* is in the form of a letter.

**mood** the overall feeling or atmosphere the author creates in a story or novel

The author's skillful use of language created a dismal, hopeless mood.

**moral** the instructive point of a story or novel; the lesson to be drawn by the reader

The moral of the story is to choose your friends carefully.



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

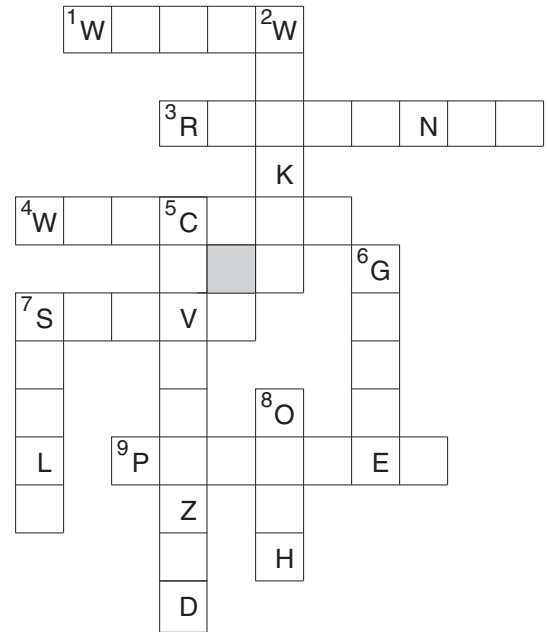
**A. Use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle.**

**ACROSS**

1. A woman whose husband has died is a \_\_\_\_ .
3. considered, thought, or supposed
4. women given magic powers by the devil
7. A \_\_\_\_ is owned by another and is not free.
9. those who attack and rob ships on the ocean

**DOWN**

2. describes someone or something bad or evil
5. trained someone who is primitive or ignorant
6. an imaginary being who will do your bidding



7. to nag or find fault with
8. a solemn promise

**B. Use a puzzle word to complete each sentence.**

1. Widow Douglas and Miss Watson wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ Huck.
2. Miss Watson sometimes called Huck \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. The boys in the gang had to swear an \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. Miss Watson's \_\_\_\_\_ was sitting in the kitchen doorway.
5. Tom said that a \_\_\_\_\_ would come out if you rubbed a magic lamp.
6. Jim told the other slaves that \_\_\_\_\_ had come in the night.
7. Huck \_\_\_\_\_ that he hadn't seen his Pap in more than a year.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

A. First unscramble the names of the characters and author. Then complete each sentence with a character's name.

KUCH NIFN _____	GUDEJ CHETRATH _____
KRAM WITAN _____	SIMS STAWNO _____
DWOWI GLUSADO _____	MOT REWASY _____
MIJ _____	PPA _____

1. \_\_\_\_\_ handed out a dollar a day to Tom and Huck.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ hadn't seen his son for more than a year.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ took Huck in to live with her.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first captain of the robber band.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ thought some witches left him a five-cent piece.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ sometimes said that Huck was wicked.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ said he doesn't like stories about dead people.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced Huck in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

B. Circle two words that describe each character.

- |                        |             |             |               |             |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. <b>Pap:</b>         | ragged      | caring      | drunk         | worried     |
| 2. <b>Jim:</b>         | educated    | delicate    | superstitious | sleepy      |
| 3. <b>Miss Watson:</b> | scolding    | tender      | playful       | religious   |
| 4. <b>Tom Sawyer:</b>  | elderly     | imaginative | unpopular     | adventurous |
| 5. <b>Huck Finn:</b>   | uncivilized | cruel       | wealthy       | young       |

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

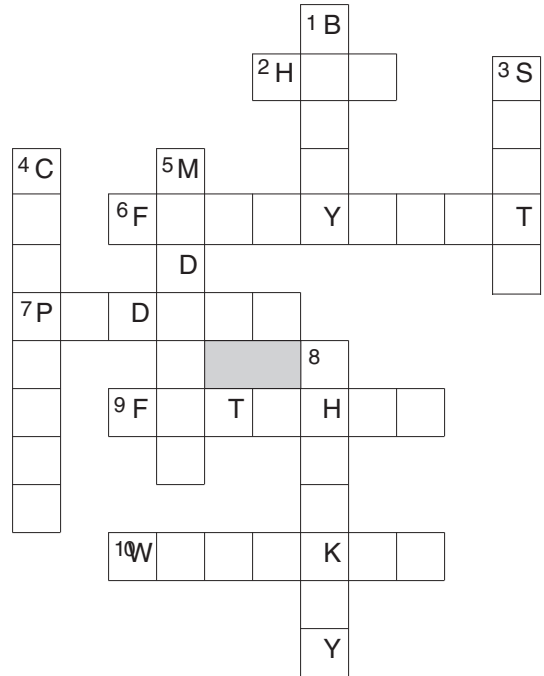
**A.** Use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle.

**ACROSS**

- 2. a tiny, rough shed
- 6. a water taxi
- 7. to move a boat forward with an oar
- 9. went after and brought back
- 10. hit or slapped something, making a sharp sound

**DOWN**

- 1. to frighten someone into doing what you say
- 3. to deliberately annoy someone else
- 4. a small outdoor fire used for light and cooking
- 5. intruded or interfered with someone else's affairs
- 8. alcoholic beverage



**B.** Unscramble the words from the puzzle. Then use the words to complete the sentences.

<b>STEPI</b> _____	<b>KHEYSIW</b> _____
<b>LEPDAD</b> _____	<b>LYLUB</b> _____

- 1. Pap used Huck's dollar to buy \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 2. Just to \_\_\_\_\_ Pap, Huck went to school.
- 3. Huck decided to \_\_\_\_\_ his canoe out to Jackson's Island.
- 4. Pap tried to \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Thatcher into giving him the money.