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Huck and Jim once again adopt the easy, peaceful rhythm of traveling by river raft. One day, however, two men run up to the riverbank and ask Huck to rescue them from the men and dogs they say are in pursuit. Huck allows them to get on board and, although he hears men and dogs in the distance, they quickly leave them behind. One of the men is about seventy, the other about thirty. They are dressed very shabbily, and both wear large, fat, ratty-looking carpet bags. Both appear to be minor criminals who have been chased out of the city for running scams. But after a few moments, the young man begins to sigh. He says that his heart has been broken and his property lost and that he carries with him a great secret. But he quickly reveals the secret, saying he is the rightful Duke of Bridgewater, whose lands and titles have been stolen by a usurper. Subscribe Now Jim and Huck try to make the Duke feel better by showing respect, using his title, and waiting for him at dinner. The older man becomes quiet and reflective, then announces that he has a secret as well. He is the Dauphin of France, the son of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. Huck and Jim then start calling him You Majesty and waiting for him too. Huck, however, is not taken in by these two huckers. He sees quickly enough that the two men are just low-down humbugs and scams, but he pretends to believe them to keep the peace. Chapter 20 The Duke and the Dauphin have both made their living in many shady ways, but the Duke is particularly fond of acting. He suggests that when they come to a big city, they should rent a hall way and perform scenes from Shakespeare. In the next small town they come to, the Duke sets up a temporary printing press and earns some money. He also writes a message describing Jim and offering a \$200 reward for him so that if they are ever stopped and asked to explain Jim's presence, they can pretend they have caught him and will claim the reward. Meanwhile, the Dauphin manages to collect the sum of \$87.75 by impersonating a reformed pirate at a religious revival meeting. He also steals a three-liter jug of whiskey, which he finds under a cart. The Duke and Dauphin then get very drunk together, leading Jim to hope they won't be joined by any more aristocracy or royalty on this trip. Chapter 21 The Duke and Dauphin rehearse scenes from Shakespeare they will perform: the balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet, sword-fighting from Richard III, and Hamlets soliloquy. The Duke teaches the Dauphin the version of Hamlet's soliloquy he has committed to memory, a farrago of phrases from Hamlet and Macbeth, which pleases the Dauphin. The Duke has playbills printed, and when they arrive at a small river town in Arkansas, they rent the courthouse for his performance, announcing the Duke and like the great (and long-dead) English actors David Garrick and Edmund Kean. Huck describes the city, which is dull, muddy and full of loafers. Loafers are very entertained by a man named Boggs, who gets hopelessly drunk once a month and comes into town on the waw-path threatening someone or others. He never kills the man he says he will kill, and a wit comments that he wishes Boggs would threaten him, because there is no more sure guarantee of safety. But this time, the man he threatens, Colonel Sherburn, is annoyed enough to shoot Boggs, who quickly dies. Someone says sherburn should be lynched, and an angry mob soon shapes, snatching down clothing-lines like hanging the colonel. Chapter 22 A screaming mob swarms along the street to Colonel Sherburn's house. They tear the fence in front of it and rush into his garden. Sherburn comes out of the house with a gun and points it at the audience, which immediately becomes ... (The entire section contains 1491 words.) Start your 48-hour free trial to unlock this The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn study guide. You get access to all the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn content, as well as access to more than 30,000 additional guides and more than 350,000 Homework Help questions answered by our experts. Summary Chapter Summaries Topics Character Analysis Critical Essays Quote eText Teaching Guide Short-Answer Quizzes Start your 48-hour free trial Already a member? Sign in here. eNotes.com will help you with any book or question. Our summaries and analyses are written by experts, and your questions are answered by real teachers. Join eNotes ©2020 eNotes.com, Inc. All rights Reserved LitCharts assigns a color and icon to each theme in Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, which you can use to track themes throughout the work. Religion and superstition chapter 19 So, they are back in the raft. Huck spends some time describing the beautiful surroundings of the river. It's pretty lovely, so check it out. Besides, he and Jim tend to be naked. Very. Just go with it—it's part of the whole to be one with nature thing. One morning, just as it gets light, Huck finds a canoe and paddles to the beach to look for some berries. Just then, two men will tear through the bush, running towards the water. He thinks they're after him or Jim, but it turns out they're on the run themselves. Of course Huck, who has a soft spot for criminals, helps them hide and takes them aboard the raft with Jim.One of these guys is old, around seventy, and pretty ratty-looking. The other is about thirty, and equally bald. We soon see that these guys do not even know each other, they are just two criminals who met when they were fleeing from the law and decided that working together would be more lucrative than trying to fool each other. It man reveals he sold a kind of toothpaste toothpaste accidentally-kind-sorta took enamel of human teeth. Oops.The older man got similar problems for running a scam himself. He ran a sobriety revival meeting (which is kind of like Alcoholics Anonymous, except without anonymity and it's actually more of a scam than helpful in any way) until it came out that he was quite drinking himself. So that's it. Back to the present: the young man starts crying and using ridiculous words like Aack. He reveals that he is actually royal. A duke, actually. Actually, he is the Duke of Bridgewater.Of course, this means that Huck and Jim must call him Your Grace and serve him and all that jazz. The older man raises his eyebrows, calls the Duke Bilgewater, which is good, and explains that he himself is royal too. What a coincidence! The funny thing is, this guy is actually a king (Louis XVII of France, he says). In the rock-paper-scissors world of fake-titles means he crushes the tar out of the Duke. Jim gets the right to worship him, too. It doesn't take Huck too long to realize that these guys are total liars. But Huck is a smart kid, and he knows that the easiest way to get along in life is not to cause too many quarrels. If they want to be called Your Majesty, there's no skin from his nose. This, he says, is something he learned from his Pap; with people like this, you just need to let them have their own way. So he doesn't tell Jim they're lying. Join today and never see them again. By entering your email address, you agree to receive emails from Shmoop and verify that you are over 13 years of age. LitCharts assigns a color and icon to each theme in Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, which you can use to track themes throughout the work. Religion and superstition Huck walks over to the beach one day to collect berries and he sees two men being chased by dogs. He helps them escape into his canoe and everyone talks. One of the men is older, around seventy, and he was chased to spend his time and money getting drunk. The other man, around thirty, was hunted to sell a product that not only took tartar from his teeth, but enamel as well. The young man tells them all that he really is a duke, the Duke of Bridgewater. He says it would make him feel better if they all appeal to him as Your Grace, My Lord or Your Grace. Besides, they should be waiting for him at dinner. Huck and Jim feel sorry for him, so they wait for him and act like servants. Subject Tracking: Conformity 5 The older man tells them all that he really is a king, and is a descendant of the Kings of France. He also wants to be treated like a king by being called Your Majesty and expects to wait for first at meals. Jim and Huck conform and behave like servants to him as well. Subject Tracking: Conformity 6 Huck eventually realizes that the two men are liars. He says nothing about it. He's the best feeling, to deal with this kind of people is to let them have their own way. Subject tracing: Conformity 7 1. Imagery At the beginning of Chapter 19, after Huck and Jim have reunited and set sail again, Huck tells how they spend their time during those two or three days. He describes how quiet it was, with not a sound to be heard except occasional bullfrogs a-cluttering, perhaps. This allows readers to gain knowledge of the quiet, peaceful loneliness the two are thoroughly enjoying. Sometimes, though, Huck states that sometimes you could hear a sweep screaming; or cluttered up the voices, it was so still, and sound got so far... which also depicts the silence of the river was. As the day goes by, the songbirds stir up and emphasize the joy of their current place. Huck could also see the beauty of the earth while sitting and watching the day begin. He mentions the boring line across the water, which was the forest on the other side of the river. He talks about how the colors of heaven changed, and the pale place that spread all over and made the water less dark. He sees fog creeping up from the water and staining a log cabin in the woods. Readers determine the time of day, and again the beauty of the area. When a nice breeze pops up, Huck smells the sweet scent that is so cool and fresh and sweet to smell because of the woods and flowers... but also the disgusting smell of the dead fish. The feeling of touch is also described, as the river's feeling is illustrated. The two men dipped into the river after putting their lines to freshen up and cool, indicating that the water was nice, clean and cold. The sand also represents how the river felt. All these images touch the senses and make readers understand the beautiful calm Huck and Jim have reached after some chaos. 2. Characterization The King and the Duke are, frankly, terrible individuals. They are scammers and believe in using lies and manipulation to get what they want, which is mostly money. They believe in telling ridiculous stories and going to extremes to get this wealth they desire. Their characterization is satirical because they probably represent Twain's view of government leaders, or nobles. The king and the Duke try to mislead and convince the ordinary peoples to respect and obey them, as government officials tend to do. They are also aimed at people who may be unintelligent or uninformed because they are easier to persuade and they can usually get what they crave from them. Government leaders and politicians are known to stretch the truth of their campaigns, to in a way con voters to move in their direction, which will be them getting what they want, which is similar to the king and the Duke's plans and goals. Twain tries to emphasize that con-but has no morals. They'll do anything, get as much money and wealth as possible. This includes deceiving religious people at the great revival. They convince them that the dauphin is a reformed pirate, and is showered with money and great attention from people. This can also be a bit of a jab at religious people, and may be a way for Twain to suggest that faithful people are easily fooled and believe incredible things, such as the story dauphin is squirting. Arkansas townspeople also appear in a negative light by Twain. They are described as drunks and loafers, and their town is a dirty, rundown place filled with mud, roaming pigs, and people with bad reputations. They all don't possess morals, and don't seem to know what the right thing to do is. Boggs is an example, because he is a rude individual who is aggressive towards Huck, but is killed by another drunk who does the wrong thing, Colonel Sherburn. Twain describes them this way because it creates evidence that they are less likely to catch on the scam of con-men, because they don't seem to know what morality is, and are probably more gullible for this reason. The last jab made on this city is the success of the King and the Duke's second show. This gives the people the negative connotation of being stingy about money, because they are angry about being ripped off, nor compassionate to their neighbors, because they want to trick them into being ripped off too. 3. Motive Yet another period of bad weather beats Huck and Jim in Chapter 20. Huck keeps watch but is in awe of the majestic storm. He describes it by saying My Souls, how the wind screamed with! And every second or two there would be a glare that lit up whitecaps for half a mile around, and you would see the islands look dusty through the rain, and the trees thrashing around in the wind... (Twain, pg. 129) and also indicates the loud and wondrous sounds it created and the powerful way it moved the raft and stutters. This dark and dangerous storm heralds difficult, challenging, or perhaps frightening times that will come. These times actually make an appearance when the Duke devises a plan to advertise a reward for capturing Jim, but with full intent to make looks as if he and the king caught him so they can receive the reward. This is another fight that Jim and Huck need to cunningly get out of. 4. Tema Huck observes a moaning and grieving Jim for many of the nights they are together. He knows that Jim misses his wife and children a lot, and is terribly homesick. With this knowledge, Huck has the revelation that black people cared as much for [their] people as white people do for theirs. (Twain, pg. 155) This is Twain once again addressing the theme of racism, but especially racial equality, for black and white individuals is almost the same. While in the days that Huck and Jim lived did not think they were equal, they all have the same characteristics, apart from their skin. 5. Pathos An obvious example of a character in Chapter 23 who is a helpless, innocent victim is Jim's daughter, Lizabeth. Jim is unaware that she has become deaf due to scarlet fever, and thinks she doesn't listen to him and be disrespectful when he tells her to close the door, so he beats her and makes her fall down and cry. It's not her fault she's deaf and couldn't hear her father's orders, but she suffers because of it. This tugs at the heart of readers, due to her inability to help herself. We feel instant compassion for her because of her disability, but even more so when Jim reacts so negatively to her. We understand the remorse and mistakes that Jim feels and it causes a tenderness within us. Us.