American Studies: Literature
Ms. Christensen

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
by Mark Twain

Reading Log Assignment

As we read the novel, you will be required to keep a routine log of what you’ve read, looking for and recording certain ideas and literary elements throughout the story. The things that you record will not only prepare you for our discussions in class, but, if done well, will also prepare you for the evaluations at the end of the unit.

The Reading Log

For each of the assigned reading sections of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, you will be expected to prepare a reading log entry. These will serve as the basis for our discussions of the novel, and part of their evaluation will be your addition of notes reflecting the class’s discussion and insights.

In class, I will simply stamp each on the date due to indicate you had it on the correct day. You will receive points for being prepared with a complete entry on the assigned day. Entries completed after the due date will receive partial points. Once or twice during the unit, I will collect your reading logs and thoroughly check one randomly selected entry. You will receive a score for the completeness of these entries.

All reading logs should contain:

1. A heading which includes the chapter number(s) and due date.
2. A five-sentence section summary (in your own words).
3. Three discussion questions (Level 2 or 3) of your own creation, with complete answers.
4. 2 meaningful quotes from the section, and your thoughts/commentary as to its significance in the novel.
5. An example of any one of the following literary techniques at work:
   - Imagery
   - Characterization
   - Figurative Language
     - simile, metaphor
   - Symbolism
   - Foreshadowing
   - Irony (situational, dramatic, verbal)

Realism vs. Romanticism Log

Your second task will be to create a chart in your notes of excerpts from the novel that reflect Romantic and/or Realistic writing. If you keep on top of this part of the reading log, a significant amount of the work will already be done when it comes time to begin your evaluation project. The Romanticism vs. Realism Log will be evaluated at the same time as Reading Logs.