Introduction: Some literary critics classify Mark Twain’s *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as an example of realism; others classify the novel as an example of romanticism. Your task is to assume the role of a literary critic and write an essay designed to persuade other critics that *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is a realist or a romantic novel.

**Characteristics of Realism:**
- careful observation of contemporary life
- focus on the middle or lower classes
- avoids idealism and romanticism
- describes settings in great detail in order to re-create a specific time and place
- portrayal of ordinary life

**Characteristics of Romanticism:**
- intuition over reason
- individuality over conformity
- imagination over reality
- constant change as a reality of life
- idealized portrayal of life and events
- exaggerated reality
- nature is a mysterious force

You will need:
- A thesis statement that guides your writing
  It should include a title, author, active verb, and a main idea.
- Support for your ideas
  Primary support from the novel, secondary support to clarify.
- Logical paragraphing
- An introduction
- A conclusion that overtly attempts to persuade the reader to accept your thesis

You will turn in:
- A pre-write with important ideas outlined
- A first draft
- A final draft with revisions
  - double spaced
  - neatly (legibly) written
  - correct format for letter or essay

Your final draft will be due Friday at the end of class.