

These guide questions are intended to assist you in your reading as well as to help you review for the comprehensive exam during the first week of school. You are to write down your answers (**including textual support with page numbers**) as you read the story. These are to be turned into your 9<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher by August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We will be referring to *Tom Sawyer* throughout the semester.

*THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER*

By Mark Twain

9<sup>th</sup> Grade English Honors Summer Reading Guide

1. Tom Sawyer exhibits many character traits. Draw the following chart and complete it by identifying actions or statements from chapters 1-6 which prove Tom has the specified character trait.

<b>Character trait</b>	<b>Words and Actions</b>	<b>Page Numbers</b>
<i>playful</i>		
<i>independent</i>		
<i>tells half-truths</i>		
<i>adventuresome</i>		
<i>lazy</i>		
<i>quarrelsome</i>		
<i>disobedient</i>		
<i>quick-thinking</i>		

2. The title *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* implies that the book is a series of adventures involving Tom and his acquaintances throughout the novel. The definition of an **adventure is "an exciting and dangerous undertaking" or "an emotional undertaking."** How do the following incidents in this novel support these definitions of an adventure? **Write one paragraph for each giving specific details.**
- A. Whitewashing a fence
  - B. The graveyard incident and resulting court trial
  - C. Jackson Island
  - D. Tom's obsession with Becky Thatcher
  - E. The search for and the discovery of treasure
  - F. Escaping everyday reality to live a fantasy life
3. Mark Twain often pokes gentle fun at Americans and their values in life. How does Twain humorously depict these in this novel? Be able to provide details. **Write one paragraph for each giving specific details.**
- A. Superstitions and folklore
  - B. Religion
  - C. The gullibility of human beings
4. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is a series of adventures depicting love, morality, revenge, and redemption. Describe in complete sentences specific incidents throughout this novel that epitomize each of these four areas.
5. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* was written by Mark Twain as a follow up to *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. **Writing in complete sentences predict what you think might happen in that book.**
6. This book is called *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* but for most of the book, Huck is also involved in the "adventure." **In complete sentences explain why you think the book wasn't named after both boys.**