**The Role of Social Issues in the book *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain**

For each issue listed below, come to a conclusion about how Mark Twain felt about the stated issue and give cited examples from the book that support your conclusion. You may collaborate as a group, but each person is responsible for completing their own assignment.

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| **Temperance:** There was a strong push to limit drunkenness, and all of the ill effects it placed on society, during the time that this story was written. Where do you see examples of Mark Twain either satirizing the temperance movement or supporting it in the novel? |  |
| **Women’s Rights:** During the time of *Huck Finn*, women did not have any rights, beyond what their husbands gave them. How does Mark Twain integrate this issue into the story by the way he portrays women to either support or satirize the women’s rights movement? |  |
| **Abolition of Slavery:** A central theme of *Huck Finn* is slavery (or the abolition of slavery) and how society treats Jim in comparison to how Huck treats Jim, or how a reader might feel Jim should be treated. How does Twain use his novel to address the abolition movement? |  |
| **Education Reform:** The movement to create better schools and educate the masses was gaining popularity during this time, how do you see education playing a role in this novel? How does Twain either show his support for formal education or satirize the education reform movement? What are Twain’s opinions of formal school education? |  |
| **Prison Reform:** While there is no specific prison (jail and prison are not the same) scene in the novel, there are plenty of criminal characters and points where the main characters are held captive. Based on this information, how do you think Twain feels about the prison system? Is he sympathetic toward criminals, or does he believe that they are something of a scourge, and should be treated with disdain? |  |
| **Revivals:** The Second Great Awakening was still relevant during Twain’s life. He would have witnessed travelling preachers, and seen people becoming newly devoutly Christian. Using the novel as reference, how did Twain feel about the revivals, and those who participated in them? |  |