

DIALECTICAL JOURNAL
Title of the Work: Huckleberry Finn

Kurt McEwan

Passage/Quote from the text (you do not need to write down the entire passage)	Pg#s	Comments, Questions, Observations
Chapter 1 "After supper she got out her book and learned me about Moses and the Bulrushers"	9	This is the first example of dialect that I noticed in the novel. I feel that it represents his lower quality of education at the time, as he doesn't use proper grammar or pronunciation.
"And she took snuff, too; of course that was all right, because she done it herself."	10	If the widow has snuff, she is being a hypocrite, I believe that snuff is just a another form of tobacco, with the only difference being that it is snorted or inhaled.
"Then she told me all about the bad place, and I said I wished I was there. She got mad then, but I didn't mean no harm. All I wanted was to go somewheres; all I wanted was a change, I warn't particular"	10	Finn likely made a reference to hell, angering the widow, who was trying to educate him about the bible.
"I didn't need anybody....in my tracks three times and crossed my breast every time; and then I tied up a little lock of my hair with a thread to keep witches away."	11	Huckleberry Finn is apparently hugely superstitious, going through a complex ritual after killing just a spider. Will this be a major aspect of the novel?
"Then I slipped down to the ground and crawled in among the trees, and, sure enough, there was Tom Sawyer waiting for me."	11	This is the first instance where we see Tom Sawyer, another character created by Twain. Sawyer is the main character in the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, another famous literary work by Twain.
Chapter 2 "Miss Watson's big nigger, named Jim, was setting in the kitchen door"	12	This is the introduction of Jim into the novel. Although I haven't read to novel before, I know that Jim running away from his mater is integral to the novel.
"Must we always kill the people?"	15	Finn and several other members have problems with the new gang, which is lead by Tom Sawyer. Sawyer is more of a dreamer in comparison to Huckleberry Finn.
Chapter 3 "So I knowed, then, that this warn't pap, but a woman dressed up in a man's clothes."	19	How does he know that it was a women, not a man? Could this person be Huck's father, who repeatedly disappears from Huck's life.
Chapter 4 " and could say the multiplication table up to six times seven is thirty-five"	22	He obviously does not really know his multiplication table. Huckleberry's equation is not correct, leading the reader to believe that he doesn't real pay much attention in school.
"I don't take no stock in mathematics, anyway."	22	The phrase take stock, and similar ones are repeatedly used in the novel. I assume that they mean that he doesn't put any faith or effort into something.
Chapter 5 "He said he'd cowhide me till I was black and blue if I didn't raise some money for him."	27	Huckleberry Finn is continually abused by his father, who disappears for extended periods of time.

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<p>“ said he'd cowhide me till I was black and blue if I didn't raise some money for him.”</p>	27	His father also makes Finn mooches money for him to purchase liquor.
<p>Chapter 6 “By and by he rolled out and jumped up on his feet looking wild, and he see me and went for me. He chased me round and round the place with a clasp-knife, calling me the Angel of Death..... see who was who.”</p>	33	His father is also crazy, and may have some kind of mental issue.
<p>Chapter 7 “went to work on that log again. Before he was t'other side of the river I was out of the hole;”</p>	36	Did he saw through the wall, of a log cabin?
<p>Chapter 8 I didn't find any phrases worth of mention in this chapter.</p>		
<p>Chapter 9 “It's a dead man. Yes, indeedy; naked, too. He's ben shot in de back. I reck'n he's ben dead two er three days. Come in, Huck, but doan' look at his face—it's too gashly.”</p>	92	Who is the dead man? Is he integral to the story?
<p>Chapter 10 “He said it would fetch bad luck”</p>	95	Will the man bring bad luck, is this foreshadowing something?
<p>Chapter 11 “Come, now, what's your real name?”</p>	108	How did the woman discover his identity? Will this lady play a role in the future of the novel?
<p>Chapter 12 “Steamboat captains is always rich, and get sixty dollars a month, and they don't care a cent what a thing costs, you know, long as they want it.”</p>	119	Here we see Twains admiration for the steamboat professions. In fact, I believe that his pen name is an allusion to the riverboating profession.
<p>Chapter 13 “the lantern show like a little spark at the texas door for a second, and we knowed by that that the rascals had missed their boat, and was beginning to understand that they was in just as much trouble now as Jim Turner was.”</p>	128	This part in the novel is a great example of where Huckleberry Finn has to follow his conscious to do something, despite the man about to be killed being a murderer, Huck still doesn't wish anything ill towards him

<p>Chapter 14 "Yit dey say Sollermun de wises' man dat ever live'. I doan' take no stock in dat."</p>	138	Huck and Jim's conversation makes references to King Solomon of biblical times. Biblical references are apparently a key aspect of southern life, regardless of skin color or status.
<p>Chapter 15 "Drinkin'? Has I ben a-drinkin'? Has I had a chance to be a-drinkin'?"</p>	149	Why is Jim acting so Bizarre?
<p>Chapter 16 "Set her back, John, set her back!" says one. They backed water. "Keep away, boy—keep to loard. Confound it, I just expect the wind has blowed it to us. Your pap's got the smallpox, and you know it precious well. Why didn't you come out and say so? Do you want to spread it all over?"</p>	160	Huck is a proficient liar, this is proving to be an extremely useful skill whenever Huck is in a dangerous situation.
<p>Chapter 17 "As soon as I was in the old gentleman he locked the door and barred it and bolted it, and told the young men to come in with their guns"</p>	171	Why are the people so paranoid?
<p>Chapter 18 "Why, where was you raised? Don't you know what a feud is?"</p>	189	This feud seems to be similar to the Hatfield and McCoy feud. If the feuds are similar, then will they both end in violent blood baths between the families.
<p>Chapter 19 "Trouble has done it, Bilgewater, trouble has done it; trouble has brung these gray hairs and this premature balditude. Yes, gentlemen, you see before you, in blue jeans and misery, the wanderin', exiled, trampled-on, and sufferin' rightful King of France."</p>	215	I believe he is referring to tols he telling the truth in any of this? This part seems like an extremely long and complicated persona that he and the so called duke are taking on.
<p>Chapter 20 "but he said he had been in this country so long, and had so much trouble, he'd forgot it."</p>	232	This seems to prove my previous question, it is like that the men are not from France, they are just pretending to be influential figure from France.
<p>Chapter 21 "Hamlet's soliloquy, you know; the most celebrated thing in Shakespeare."</p>	234	What is a soliloquy? Is it like a Shakespearean sonnet, some kind of poetry written in a certain form and meter?
<p>Chapter 22 Nothing of note in chapter</p>		
<p>Chapter 23 "When he's drunk there ain't no near-sighted man could tell him from a king."</p>		Drinking alcohol and its effects on people seems to be a prevalent underlying theme of this novel, it's negative effects on people create many situations in the novel.