

## Week 8 Homework Humor

- 1) Write a literary analysis essay describing the way Mark Twain develops humor in *Tom Sawyer*. Consider irony, colloquial language, and satire. What makes the humor work? Give examples.

Things to consider:

What are some of the most humorous parts of the book? What type of humor is Twain using? What makes it funny? Why does he use humor? How does the colloquial language add to the humor of the book? Would it be as effective if Twain had written it in proper English? Why or why not?

Make sure to brainstorm and outline your essay before you begin. It will help you to have ideas and organize them logically.

Colloquial: informal speech

Verbal Irony—When the outcome turns out to be very different from what was expected.

Situational Irony—When the outcome turns out to be very different from what was expected.

Dramatic Irony—When the audience is aware of what is going on, or what might happen, or what is being said, but the other characters are NOT aware of it.

Satire is the use of irony, sarcasm, or ridicule in exposing and condemning wrong behavior. Writers use it to point out human foolishness.

- 2) Vocabulary words:

Adamant— refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind

Discreet— careful in one's speech or actions, especially in order to avoid causing offense or to gain an advantage

Facetious— treating serious issues with deliberately inappropriate humor

Forbearance— patient self-control

Sagacity—ability to make good judgments

- 3) Finish reading *Treasure Island* this week.