

Cross-Curricular Argumentation Guide A

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____ Topic: American Literary Novel: Mark Twain

<p>1. Clarify the claim with any qualifier and define key terms. Mark Twain’s <i>Huckleberry Finn</i> is an example of a great American literary novel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary novel: A work of fiction that explores social themes, uses figurative language such as symbolism, explores character growth, and contains a message. • American novel: A novel that uses uniquely American settings or cultural beliefs and often uses colloquial language. 	<p>3. Analyze the reasoning. <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. addresses the social theme of slavery. 2. uses the Mississippi River as a symbol of Huck’s journey. 3. Huck grows in his understanding of the immorality of slavery. 4. has the message: worth of each human. <p><i>Huckleberry Finn</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. is set in the American pre-Civil War Southern culture. 2. characters in the novel use colloquial language of the time.
<p>2. List the evidence. Literary novel characteristics include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. contains an important social theme 2. utilizes symbolism 3. shows growth in character’s understanding 4. contains a philosophical message for the reader <p>American novel characteristics include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. set in a specific American time and culture 2. uses colloquial language of the time 	<p>4. Identify other arguments for or against the claim. Throughout the novel, Huck moves from accepting the cultural belief of slaves as property and feeling guilty about helping Jim escape to recognizing Jim as a human being who showed kindness, loyalty and love of family, and deserved to be free.</p> <p>5. Make a judgment about the quality of evidence, reasoning, and other arguments. The quality of evidence is good because it lists characteristics of both a literary novel and American novel. The reasoning is logical because there is a point-by-point correlation showing all characteristics of both a literary novel and American novel are found in <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>. The additional argument is a good example of the cultural beliefs addressed in this novel.</p>
<p>6. State why you accept or reject the claim. I agree with the claim because there is a point-by-point correlation between good quality evidence and reasoning.</p>	