Summer Reading Vocabulary – The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
English III/IV Honors & AP
Brother Martin High School

The following vocabulary words accompany the summer reading novel for English III/IV Honors and AP. Students taking junior level honors or AP English courses are responsible for knowing these words and definitions to be assessed as part of a full test on the novel as early as the second day of classes on August 13, 2019. To prepare for the summer reading test, carefully and thoroughly review these words in addition to all details such as characters, settings, and major plot events.

A list of these words is also available by visiting www.vocabulary.com and searching "Brother Martin Huck Finn List." You may also go directly to the following link: http://vocab.com/lists/666427

1. abreast - alongside each other, facing in the same direction
2. adage - a condensed but memorable saying embodying some important fact of experience that is taken as true by many people
3. addle - mix up or confuse
4. adventure - a wild and exciting undertaking (not necessarily lawful)
5. affront - a deliberately offensive act or something producing the effect of deliberate disrespect
6. aggravate - make worse
7. amaze - affect with wonder
8. amputate - remove surgically
9. aristocracy - a privileged class holding hereditary titles
10. astonish - affect with wonder
11. auction - the public sale of something to the highest bidder
12. awkward - lacking grace or skill in manner or movement or performance
13. awry - turned or twisted to one side
14. azure - of a deep somewhat purplish blue color similar to that of a clear October sky
15. bashful - self-consciously timid
16. benefactor - a person who helps people or institutions (especially with financial help)
17. bluff - a high steep bank (usually formed by river erosion)
18. bogus - fraudulent; having a misleading appearance
19. brazen - unrestrained by convention or propriety
20. bristle - a stiff hair
21. browse - look around casually and randomly, without seeking anything in particular
22. budge - move very slightly
23. candid - openly straightforward and direct without reserve or secretiveness
24. captivate - attract; cause to be enamored
25. carcass - the dead body of an animal especially one slaughtered and dressed for food
26. careen - pitching dangerously to one side
27. chisel - an edge tool with a flat steel blade with a cutting edge
28. cipher - a message written in a secret code
29. coax - influence or urge by gentle urging, caressing, or flattering
30. contagion - an incident in which an infectious disease is transmitted

31. contrive - make or work out a plan for; devise
32. convince - make (someone) agree, understand, or realize the truth or validity of something
33. dawn - the first light of day
34. deceive - cause someone to believe an untruth
35. degrade - reduce in worth or character, usually verbally
36. delirium - a usually brief state of excitement and mental confusion often accompanied by hallucinations
37. desperado - a bold outlaw (especially on the American frontier)
38. despise - look down on with disdain 39
39. dismal - causing dejection
40. dissipate - to cause to separate and go in different directions
41. distress - a state of adversity (danger or affliction or need)
42. dote - shower with love; show excessive affection for
43. evade - avoid or try to avoid fulfilling, answering, or performing (duties, questions, or issues)
44. feud - a bitter quarrel between two parties
45. gape - look with amazement; look stupidly
46. gaudy - tastelessly showy
47. glare - be sharply reflected
48. glimpse - a brief or incomplete view
49. gust - a strong current of air
50. haggle - an instance of intense argument (as in bargaining)
51. histrionic - characteristic of acting or a stage performance; often affected
52. hoist - raise or haul up with or as if with mechanical help (continued on next page)
53. infernal - characteristic of or resembling Hell
54. jabber - talk in a noisy, excited, or declamatory manner
55. jest - activity characterized by good humor
56. limber - (used of persons' bodies) capable of moving or bending freely
57. loll - be lazy or idle
58. lumber - move heavily or clumsily
59. lump - put together indiscriminately
60. maim - injure or wound seriously and leave permanent disfiguration or mutilation
61. mar - make imperfect
62. meddle - intrude in other people's affairs or business; interfere unwantedly
63. meddlesome - intrusive in a meddling or offensive manner
64. meek - humble in spirit or manner; suggesting retiring mildness or even cowed submissiveness
65. mite - any of numerous very small to minute arachnids often infesting animals or plants or stored foods
66. moat - ditch dug as a fortification and usually filled with water
67. muddle - mix up or confuse
68. nip - sever or remove by pinching or snipping
69. notion - a general inclusive concept
70. obituary - a notice of someone's death; usually includes a short biography
71. pallet - a hand tool with a flat blade used by potters for mixing and shaping clay
72. pensive - deeply or seriously thoughtful

73. pert - characterized by a lightly exuberant quality
74. pious - having or showing or expressing reverence for a deity
75. plumb - exactly vertical
76. ponderous - having great mass and weight and unwieldiness
77. premature - too soon or too hasty
78. pry - be nosey
79. rampant - unrestrained and violent
80. raspy - unpleasantly harsh or grating in sound
81. rave - talk in a noisy, excited, or declamatory manner
82. regulation - the act of bringing to uniformity; making regular
83. reliable - worthy of reliance or trust
84. remiss - failing in what duty requires
85. rousing - capable of arousing enthusiasm or excitement
86. rummage - search haphazardly
87. rustle - make a dry crackling sound
88. sapling - young tree
89. scamper - to move about or proceed hurriedly
90. scoundrel - a wicked or evil person; someone who does evil deliberately
91. scour - rub hard or scrub
92. shirk - avoid (one's assigned duties)
93. sinister - stemming from evil characteristics or forces; wicked or dishonorable
94. skiff - any of various small boats propelled by oars or by sails or by a motor
95. slough - a hollow filled with mud
96. sluice - conduit that carries a rapid flow of water controlled by a sluicegate
97. solder - join or fuse with solder
98. soliloquy - speech made to oneself
99. spade -a sturdy hand shovel that can be pushed into the earth with the foot
100. speculate - reflect deeply on a subject
101. splendid - characterized by grandeur
102. spry - moving quickly and lightly
103. stalk - material consisting of seed coverings and small pieces of stem or leaves that have been separated from the seeds
104. staple - material suitable for manufacture or use or finishing
105. starve - die of food deprivation
106. studied - produced or marked by conscious design or premeditation
107. stump - the base part of a tree that remains standing after the tree has been felled
108. sublime - of high moral or intellectual value; elevated in nature or style
109. tanner - a craftsman who tans skins and hides
110. taper - diminish gradually
111. tedious - so lacking in interest as to cause mental weariness
112. trough - a long narrow shallow receptacle
113. uneasy - causing or fraught with or showing anxiety (continued on next page)
114. unload - take the load off (a container or vehicle)
115. valid – well-grounded in logic or truth or having legal force

116. victuals - a source of materials to nourish the body
117. wallow - roll around, "pigs were wallowing in the mud"
118. warble - sing or play with trills, alternating with the half note above or below
119. waylay - wait in hiding to attack
120. weave - pattern of weaving or structure of a fabric
121. welt - a raised mark on the skin (as produced by the blow of a whip); characteristic of many allergic reactions
122. whelp -young of any of various canines such as a dog or wolf
123. whirl - the act of rotating rapidly
124. whittle - cut small bits or pare shavings from
125. wince - draw back, as with fear or pain