

**Credits:**

Chapter 4, from *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain.

Read by Carole Bos, creator of Awesome Stories.

In-text images, by Edward W. Kemble, appear in the original edition of Mark Twain's "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." A young artist at the time of this commission, Kemble's career received a significant boost from his Huck-Finn work.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-4-Audio-0)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-4-Audio-0>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-4-Audio-0)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Adventures-of-Huck-Finn-by-Mark-Twain-Chapter-4-Audio-0>

**Questions 2 Ponder****Does "Luck" Have Anything to Do with Life?**

Reading Huck Finn, we meet a young boy who believes in "luck," including "bad luck." Huck's outlook begs the question of whether luck has anything to do with life.

Huck seems to be a realist, so how can he also believe in "bad luck?"

Are we getting some clues, in Chapter IV, that Huck may be a more complicated boy than he seems to be earlier in the novel? If so, what are those clues?

**How Business-Savvy is Huck Finn?**

Although he's just a boy, Mark Twain makes Huck Finn more complicated than he seems at first blush. Huck even understands that making a deal with Judge Thatcher will protect his fortune.

The deal is that Judge Thatcher gets to keep Huck's fortune in exchange for giving Huck a single dollar. How do you suppose Huck came up with the idea he proposes to Judge Thatcher?

Do the Judge and Huck view that deal differently? What are those differences?

Huck wants to give Thatcher his fortune so Huck doesn't have to lie. What is the lie he wants to avoid?

How trusting would Huck have to be of Judge Thatcher before he could propose such a deal to him? Explain your answer.

**Is it Ever Possible to Predict the Future?**

Huck Finn is a sceptic who has serious doubts about the Widow Douglas' faith, yet he asks Jim to tell him the future.

If Huck is a sceptic, who has serious doubts about the Widow Douglas' religion faith, why would he ask Jim to tell him the future?

What are we to make of those apparently conflicting sides of Huck's character? Are they, perhaps, not conflicting at all? Explain your answer.

Was Jim serious when he gave Huck his "reading" of the hair-ball? If not, what was he trying to do for Huck?

Is it ever possible to predict the future? If so, give examples of when the future might be predictable. (A possible line of thought could be whether climate change is predictable.)