Two Views of the River (page 490)

1. Which of the following is most important in Twain’s description of the sunset scene he witnessed when “steamboating was new” to him?

a. the range of sounds

b. the variety of smells

c. the colors and lighting

d. the changes in temperature

2. How did Twain react to the river’s beauty before he learned to pilot a riverboat?

a. he felt as if he had lost something

b. he stood as if bewitched by it

c. he ceased altogether to note it

d. he read it like the letters of the alphabet

3. How does Twain organize this excerpt?

a. by describing in detail a scene from his past

b. by relating an event that was meaningful to him

c. by explaining the causes and effects of an event

d. by comparing two ways of experiencing an event

4. Which of the following best describes the tone of Twain’s writing in this excerpt?

a. thoughtful c. mystified

b. disturbed d. excited

5. Why does Twain pity doctors?

a. They tend to lose their concern for their patients

b. Their patients are full of unwholesome conditions

c. They have to work long hours and face deadly diseases

d. They may not see human beauty the was he sees the river’s

6. Describe what you learn about the Mississippi River from Twain’s “Two Views of the River.”

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Bonus- Life Along the Mississippi

1. What does the author say is a positive consequence of the construction of levees along the river?

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2. How does the author describe the Mississippi Delta? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. What does the author say is the principal source of difficulty for the Mississippi Delta?

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4. What do Nauvoo, Illinois; Kimmswick, Missouri; and Clarksdale, Mississippi have in common?

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5. The author notes that America’s “richest cultural legacy” was created by people who

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