Name _____
Hour _____

Activity: Dialogue Translation

In class, we have been talking what dialect is, how it is used in context, and what effect it has on the reader's perception of the characters. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* contains a number of different dialects. Examine each of the quotations from the novel. For each quote, complete the following:

ON THE RAFT.

1. In the space below, translate the words and rewrite each in standard English.
2. Explain how the dialect affects your perception of the character.
3. Answer the question "How could the quotes/dialects prove that we are products of our society?"

QUOTATIONS:

1. (Pap) "An looky her – you drop that school, you hear? I'll learn people to bring up a boy to put on airs over his own father and let on to be better'n what *he* is. You lemme catch you fooling around that school again, you hear? Your mother couldn't read, and she couldn't write, nuther, before she died. None of the family couldn't before they died. I can't; and here you're a-swelling yourself up like this."

Appendix #9a

2. (Jim) "I laid dah under de shavin's all day. I 'uz hungry, but I warn't afeard; bekase I knowed ole missus en de wider wiz goin' to start to de camp-meet'n' right arter breakfas' en be gone all day end dey knows I goes off wid de cattle 'bout daylight, so dey wouln' 'spec to see me roun' de place, en so dey wouldn' miss me tell arter dark in de evenin'."

3. (Huck) Jim sucked and sucked at the jug, and now and then he got out of his head and pitched around and yelled; but every time he come to himself he went to sucking at the jug again. His foot swelled up pretty big, and so did his leg; but by and by the drunk begun to come, and so I judged he was all right; but I'd druther been bit with a snake than pap's whisky.

4. (Knitting Woman) "You do a girl tolerable poor, but you might fool men, maybe. Bless you, child, when you set out to thread a needle don't hold the thread still and fetch the needle up to it; hold the needle still and poke the threat at it; that's the way a woman most always does, but man always does t'other way.

Appendix #9b