

## Digital Yoknapatawpha Worksheet

### **“Barn Burning”**

The Digital Yoknapatawpha website provides people with a digital guide to William Faulkner’s works. For this worksheet, the first half of the questions are meant to be simple to answer based on the information provided on the website. The second half, however, requires a bit more thought and reflection on the significance of characters and locations in the story. Please use the following website to answer the questions below: <http://faulkner.iath.virginia.edu/>

1. How many characters are featured in the story?
  - a) How many of those characters are considered “Major?”
  - b) How many of the characters are “Unnamed?”
  
2. How many locations are mentioned in the story?
  - a) According to the heat map feature, at which three locations do most of the events take place?
  - b) How many locations are natural and not man-made structures?
  
3. Who is Sarty Snopes?
  - a) Give three facts about Sarty’s appearance from the Biography section.
  - b) Where was the first location that Sarty appeared?

4. According to the timeline, in what year does the story begin?
  
5. In the story “Barn Burning,” there are very few main characters that affect the action of the narrative. There are, however, several ancillary characters referenced over the course of the narrative. Use the Digital Yoknapatawpha website to answer the following questions.
  - a) On the toolbar, select “All” under “Characters.” Find the character named Malbrouck and read his description. What can you infer from the description about the nature of Malbrouck’s character and his importance to the work?
  
  - b) Take note of the number of icons that indicate African-American characters. Then select “Major & Secondary” under the “Characters” section of the toolbar. What can you say about the lack of African-American characters with this narrowed focus?
  
6. Note the types of locations on the map for “Barn Burning.”
  - a) Why do you believe that the majority of the actions in the story take place outside of established homes and locations? Furthermore, what do you think the significance is of this narrative choice?
  
  - b) Read the descriptions for “Sarty’s Hill” and “Campsite.” Given the level of importance of these locations in the story, what do the descriptions tell us about the importance of these locations to scholars?