Digital Yoknapatawpha Worksheet

Understanding Faulkner’s “That Evening Sun”

Directions:
● Go to the Digital Yoknapatawpha website: http://faulkner.iath.virginia.edu/
● Scroll through the texts at the bottom of the page and click on “That Evening Sun.”
● Use the Map Tools to answer the following questions.

1. Go to “Display Controls: Show Characters,” select “Major,” and read the biographies of each character. Have you learned anything new about any of these characters? Do you feel that anything is missing? Explain.

2. Go to “Display Controls: Show Characters” and select “Major and Secondary.” Which of the secondary characters do you feel has the biggest impact on the story? Why?

3. Move your mouse over the different locations on the map. Under “Display Controls: Show Events” select the box next to “Heat Map.” What does this tell you? What is the relationship between Nancy’s Cabin and the Compson Place?
4. Go to “Display Controls: Other Resources” and select “Audio Clips.” Listen to the audio file entitled “Use of Quentin as a child narrator?” How does this affect your perception of Quentin in “That Evening Sun”?

5. If you have read The Sound in the Fury, comment on the characterization of Jason in “That Evening Sun.” Does his behavior surprise you? Why or why not? If you have not read The Sound in the Fury, skip this question.

6. Go to YouTube and type “St. Louis Blues WC Handy lyrics” in the search bar. Select one of the videos that includes the lyrics and watch/listen to it. Faulkner gained inspiration from this song for the title of “That Evening Sun.” What comparisons can you make between this song and Faulkner’s story?