

Name_____

“The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” Study Guide

Twain begins by telling us that this story comes from his friend Simon Wheeler, and is about a friend’s friend, *Leonidas W. Smiley*. Wheeler only claims to know *Jim Smiley*, though Twain is doubtful if Leonidas and Jim are the same person. From the middle of page 485 until the end, the story is told entirely in Simon’s voice, dialect and all.

1. What did Jim Smiley like to do? (He always came out a winner.)
2. Summarize the story given about Smiley’s mare (horse).
3. Summarize the story given about Smiley’s dog with no hind legs.
4. Who or what is Dan’l Webster?
5. What did the other man do to Dan’l Webster while Smiley was away?
6. How is it revealed that Jim and Leonidas Smiley are the same person?
7. Find three comic moments in this short story and write down a quote from each.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.