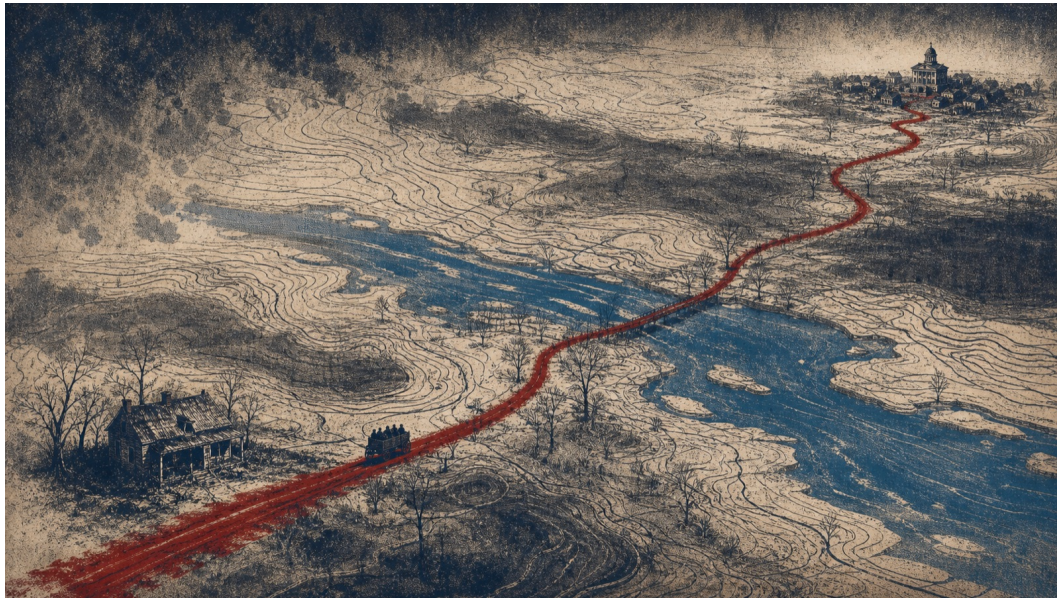


Turning a route into a claim

A completed spatial annotation showing that narrative distance is measured by difficulty, not simply by miles.



ACTIVITY PROMPT

Choose one stop on the route. Compare its geographic position with the amount of narrative attention it receives, then make a claim about the mismatch.

COMPLETED MODEL

"Farm -> River crossing -> Jefferson"

TAGS

Delay | Terrain | Form

OBSERVATION

The river is geographically between departure and arrival, but narratively it takes up far more attention than either endpoint.

INTERPRETATION

Distance in the novel is measured by difficulty, not miles. The river expands because it reorganizes bodies, possessions, and loyalties.

QUESTION

Which other location becomes larger in the telling than it appears on the map?

How the thinking moves

Use this model to study the sequence of decisions. Do not copy its answer; repeat its movement with your own evidence.

STEP 1	Mark the route and key stops.
STEP 2	Add evidence to each location.
STEP 3	Represent delay or intensity with size, spacing, or color.
STEP 4	Name where geographic and narrative distance diverge.
STEP 5	Explain why that divergence matters.

Why this model works

The response uses the map as evidence rather than as plot summary. It compares two measures of distance and turns their mismatch into an arguable claim about form.

Student self-check

EVIDENCE	I named a specific detail and accurately situated it.
INTERPRETATION	I explained why the detail matters instead of only summarizing it.
COMPLICATION	I left room for another reader or another piece of evidence.
MEDIUM	I explained what this interface, image, or map makes visible.

Citation and AI disclosure

Suggested citation: Watkins, Marc. *Reading Faulkner in the Age of Thinking Machines*. Interactive digital collection and teaching resource, 2026.

Project: As I Lay Dying Journey Map. <https://mwatkins03-netizen.github.io/As-I-Lay-Dying-Map-GPT-5.6/>

Literary source: Faulkner, William. *As I Lay Dying*. Jonathan Cape & Harrison Smith, 1930.

AI disclosure: Marc Watkins conceived, directed, selected, revised, and takes responsibility for this resource and the linked projects. Generative AI systems assisted with interface prototyping, code generation and debugging, visual asset development, and editorial scaffolding. OpenAI Codex assisted with the gallery and PDF production. Watkins reviewed and shaped all outputs. Student-facing activities do not require generative AI, and students should cite any AI use required by their course or institution.