

## THE ROLE OF LAUGHTER IN MARK TWAIN'S CLASSIC WORKS

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### Abstract:

Mark Twain is a famous critical realist writer in the late nineteenth Century. Through combining humor and irony, he makes relentless expose and criticism of the ugly phenomena in American social life. The excellent satirical art in a number of his works showed, not only became an independent school at the time of the American literature, but also had a profound impact on the future of American literature. In this article, the author describe about Mark Twain's classical novels, specific language and writing techniques from some classical novels of Mark Twain.

**Key words:** classical novels, comedy, satire, a satirist, humorist, humor, caricature, story

### РОЛЬ СМЕХА В КЛАССИЧЕСКИХ ПРОИЗВЕДИЯХ МАРКА ТВЕНА

#### Аннотация

Марк Твен – известный писатель-критик-реалист конца девятнадцатого века. Сочетая юмор и иронию, он беспощадно разоблачает и критикует уродливые явления в американской общественной жизни. Превосходное сатирическое искусство в ряде его произведений не только стало в то время самостоятельной школой американской литературы, но и оказало глубокое влияние на будущее американской литературы. В этой статье автор рассказывает о классических романах Марка Твена, особенностях языка и техники письма некоторых классических романов Марка Твена.

**Ключевые слова:** классические романы, комедия, сатира, сатирик, юморист, юмор, карикатура, рассказ

Mark Twain's real name was Samuel Langhorne Clemens. The phrase means "note the two." Of course, many two's appear in Mark Twain's writings. The major two



that appears in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, and of course another notable two appears in The Prince and the Pauper. In Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, another notable two, besides Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, is the King and the Duke.

Mark Twain was a humorist, journalist, lecturer, and novelist who remains best known for his adventure stories of American boyhood. His stories and novels are known works are “The adventure of Tom Sawyer” and “The Adventure of Huckelberry Finn”, both classics in American literature.

From 1875 to 1885, Mark Twain was at his happiest and his most productive. This is when he published the novels he is most remembered for. Twain published The Adventures of Tom Sawyer in 1876. He published The Prince and the Pauper in 1881. He published ‘Adventures of Huckleberry Finn’ in 1885. Mark Twain wrote two important novels during this time: He published A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court in 1889, and he published Pudd’nhead Wilson in 1894.

Mark Twain’s style of humor was wry, pointed, memorable, and delivered in a slow drawl. Twain’s humor carried on the tradition of humor of the Southwest, consisting of tall tales, myths, and frontier sketches, informed by his experiences growing up in Hannibal, MO, as a steamboat pilot on the Mississippi River, and as a gold miner and journalist in Nevada and California. Twain’s language is so fluid, his ear for dialect so acute, that his narratives appear effortless and not, as they were in actuality, the product of studied word choice and careful revision.

Twain used humor as a a weapon against racism, greed, and hypocrisy, viewing his wit as a means of encouraging reformation. Although his popular image is as a author of such comic works as ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Life on the Mississippi’, and ‘The Prince and the Pauper’, Twain had a darker side that may have resulted from the bitter experiences of his life: financial failure and the deaths of his wife and daughter.

His last writings are savage, satiric, and pessimistic. The following selection is taken from ‘Letters from the Earth’, one of his last works. The term ‘humor’ is something that was varying connotation to different people. Mark Twain’s humor, at least many portions of it, will probably recede beyond general appreciation. But as a a novelist he will always be loved by his readers and the other novelist. All his works are master pieces. In the Adventures of Tom Swayyer and The Adventure of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain’s delightful humor is seen in abundance. Even his



trip around the world was delightful to his audience and none who heard him could forget his unique drollery.

One of the great things that Mark Twain achieved in Huckleberry Finn and other novels is the creation of a prose style suited to the American ethos.

While Mark Twain was traveling in Europe (an adventure he wrote about in *Innocents Abroad*), a number of tour guides made his life miserable, so with the help of a few friends, he decided to make the tour guides' lives miserable. For the duration of the trip, Mark Twain and his friends refused to be impressed by anything a tour guide showed them. Once, a tour guide showed them a letter handwritten by Christopher Columbus. One of Mark Twain's friends looked at the letter and complained about the sloppy penmanship, "Why, I have seen boys in America only fourteen years old that could write better than that."

Mark Twain believed that vigorous cussing was one of the greatest joys of life; unfortunately, his wife, Livy, disagreed. One morning, Mr. Twain cut himself while shaving, so he vigorously shouted a long stream of cuss words. Livy, in an attempt to shock him, calmly repeated each word he had said. Mr. Twain smiled at his wife, then she said, "You know the words, dear Livy, but you don't know the tune." Mark Twain told this story in *Life on the Mississippi*: A riverboat pilot named Stephen was out of money and in New Orleans. Aware of Stephen's plight, a steamboat captain offered him the job of piloting a steamboat up the Mississippi — but at a salary of \$125 instead of Stephen's usual salary of \$250. Having no choice, Stephen accepted the offer, but he piloted the boat up the middle of the river so that it had to fight the current instead of seeking the stiller water nearer the shore.

Of course, Mark Twain was widely loved, and his books were widely loved. He also earned a large amount of respect because he had paid all his debts. However, Mark Twain suffered in his old age because of deaths in the family.

Before he died, he felt ill. Of course, he was widely loved by the reading public, and many fans sent him home remedies in hopes that they would make him feel better.

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