

Author Emulation Handbook



The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn/ Mark Twain

Huckleberry Finn is centered around the adventures of Huck', a Mississippi youth. Bored with his normal life, he constantly tries to make his reality distorted through lies that he can't see through any better than those he tells them to. His father has hurt his relationship with Huck' so he sets off to make an adventure with his slave Jim to explore Mississippi. On their travels they occasionally meet Tom Sawyer, a kid with wit, bandits and thieves who are begging to get their hands on money and rival families who are thirsty for blood.

Element #1 - Grammar Style

"The place where he keeps his wives. Don't you know about the harem? Solomon had one; he had about a million wives."

"Why, yes, dat's so; I—I'd done forgot it. A harem's a bo'd'n-house, I reck'n. Mos' likely dey has rackety times in de nussery. En I reck'n de wives quarrels considerable; en dat 'crease de racket. Yit dey say Sollermun de wises' man dat ever live'. I doan' take no stock in dat. Bekase why: would a wise man want to live in de mids' er sich a blim-blammin' all de time? No—'deed he wouldn't. A wise man 'ud take en buil' a biler-factory; en den he could shet down de biler-factory when he want to res'."

Chapter 14 pg.75 (pdf pg.80)

What's this element?

The author is purposely using slang to create a more literal mental image. The author is attempting to emulate the accents and slang of the residents of Mississippi. He also uses really strong contractions when the people have direct conversations.

Why does it matter?

Sets the tone of the book. I can hear a Western English tone and instead it's more directed to how they might have spoken with a strong Southern accent. This is important because the book is set in the shores of Mississippi. This also can help you determine the status of different characters due to the way Mark Twain writes their speech. According to the book, the better you

What's the impact on the reader?

It makes you feel like you are closer to the people in the story because of the way they are talking. You might hear the way they talk and can somehow imagine them in your head through the use of slang. Teenagers often use slang and many contractions when we communicate with one another so this can tie our generation to the people in the book. This amount of interaction can make the book seem more energizing because of the way it allows the reader work to understand the book.

Element #2 - Paragraph Structure

"The river went on raising and raising for ten or twelve days, till at last it was over the banks. The water was three or four foot deep on the island in the low places and on the Illinois bottom. On that side it was a good many miles wide, but on the Missouri side it was the same old distance across—a half a mile—because the Missouri shore was just a wall of high bluffs."

"Daytimes we paddled all over the island in the canoe, It was mighty cool and shady in the deep woods, even if the sun was blazing outside. We went winding in and out amongst the trees, and sometimes the vines hung so thick we had to back away and go some other way. Well, on every old broken-down tree you could see rabbits and HUCKLEBERRY FINN 51 snakes and such things; and when the island had been overflowed a day or two they got so tame, on account of being hungry, that you could paddle right up and put your hand on them if you wanted to; but not the snakes and turtles—they would slide off in the water. The ridge our cavern was in was full of them. We could a had pets enough if we'd wanted them."

What's this element?

The structure of the paragraphs helps the readers understand the chronological and descriptive order. Plus, Mark Twain organizes these paragraphs chronologically, which goes by time. For example, if the book is in the process of describing a character, the structure of the paragraph will be able to, without making the paragraph unnecessarily long, and eventually killing the reader of boredom.

Why does it matter?

It makes the book easier to read, stopping the book from having many "run-on" paragraphs. This element makes the book more inviting and less stress inducing. Mark Twain's paragraphs are never too literal either, like when looking at this line in the ending of the paragraphs above; (" The ridge our cavern was in was full of them. We could a had pets enough if we'd wanted them.") This type of description is found throughout the book and are important because of their comicality and practicality.

What's the impact on the reader?

It might relieve the reader, long paragraphs might intimidate anyone who's reading the book. The descriptions help create a better mental image making their relationships with Huckleberry stronger because they eventually get the sense that they can see through the eyes of Huck'.

Element#3 - Commas and Dialogue structure

"The place where he keeps his wives. Don't you know about the harem? Solomon had one; he had about a million wives."

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Chapter 14 pg.75 (pdf pg.80)

What's this element?

The author is using commas and sentences to imitate casual speech. Mark Twain makes the use of "run on sentences" in dialogue to create a more realistic pattern of speech. Mark Twain uses commas to create the pauses in speech.

Why does it matter?

This further improves the mental image that the book gives you. When we talk to other people, we tend to speak in long sentences, not the way we write dialogue in today's writing. It helps the reader create a better image of individual characters as they speak.

What's the impact on the reader?

This helps the reader further connect to the story and the setting due to the way Mark Twain's attempt to authenticate the speech of the characters conversations. The change in dialogue can help the reader infer the relationships between characters, whether it be a formal conversation or a conversation between friends like Huckleberry and Tom Sawyer.

My emulation: Boring Ol' Day

The school that mornin' was quiet. The other kids inside were like the mice in Mawmaw's attic, too silent to hear, too fast to see, but their presence could be felt. I was accompanied by the cold ol' wind. It's icy touch sent the shives' down mah backside making Ma's fridge feel like the warm shower. I made my way to the safety of the school. There was the usual crowd of Freshmen, the too early for school, the too silent, and the too shy to make conversation.

"G'mornin'", I said robotically. "How's your morning so far?"

"I'm fine, how's goin' for you?" the woman at the front desk said.

This was the usual morning routine; I'd walk into the building, say hello to everyone and if I was lucky enough I'd have a good 'nough breakfast waitin' for me.

"Hey Mort," I heard a voice say. In at the Lunch line there stood the giant of a boy Gerry. "Whaddup Mort."

"Hey Gerry, how's the mornin' been treatin' you," I tried my hardest to say. "It's way too early for school man, when I tell you it's early, I mean roosters wouldn't be crazy 'nough to be screechin'. Naw, I just don't think this is even healthy for us, these eyes ain't gonna stay pretty forever now. Might just be illegal in some places to not have old eight hours of sleep."

"Well you know that you could die from that stuff, that's gotta be the craziest thing I've 'eva seen man." Gerry said like he was preaching. "Like is this school here to off us from the most unoticable thing in the world, Yo I wonder how many people are dyin' from that though," Gerry said as we walked up the stairs.

"I've heard 'a some kids dyin' from it, lack of sleep an' all," I stated like this was a campfire story time.

"Why you lying man no they didn't," Gerry said as the argument of the day had begun.

This took up most of the day to settle but at least there was something that kept us occupied during the day. Well if it weren't for dat there dilema, well my story might'a been about some borin' 'ol day at school.

Annotations

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"Hey Mort," I heard a voice say. In at the Lunch line there stood the giant of a boy Gerry. "Whaddup Mort."

This shows the slang style that is used in Huckleberry Finn. This was used to immitate the sound of a real conversation between kids.

"The school that mornin' was quiet. The other kids inside were like the mice in Mawmaw's attic, too silent to hear, too fast to see but their presence could be felt. I was accompanied by the cold ol' wind. It icy touch sent the shives' down mah backside making Ma's fridge feel like the warm shower."

This shows the efficient and creative way to describe things. The mouse description probably easily describes; sound, sight and feeling.

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About The Author

Mark Twain

Samuel Langhorne Clemens was an writer who wrote under the pen name of Mark Twain. Mark Twain wrote his claim to fame "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" in 1876 and then his sequel in 1885, "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"

**Mark Twain was born
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Genero Accooe

Born July 30, 2000

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