



“
Patriotism
is supporting
your country
all the time,
and your
government
when it
deserves it.

”

MARK TWAIN



Mark Twain

Samuel Clemens (pen name Mark Twain) was born and raised in Missouri. He grew up in Hannibal, a town on the Mississippi River. The steamboats, tradesmen, slaves, and violence there inspired the fictional towns in Twain's famous works *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. As a teenager, Twain wrote for various papers before becoming a riverboat pilot. Known for his witticisms and social commentary, Twain wrote short stories, novels, and other works that continue to be treasured in classrooms. Twain was born shortly after the appearance of Halley's Comet in 1835; he said it would be "the greatest disappointment" if he didn't "go out" with it, too. He died of a heart attack on April 21, 1910, one day after the comet's closest approach to Earth.




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