**Citations**

* 1. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_ref-1) ["The Mark Twain House Biography"](http://web.archive.org/web/20061016074753/http:/www.marktwainhouse.org/theman/bio.shtml). Archived from [the original](http://www.marktwainhouse.org/theman/bio.shtml) on 2006-10-16. Retrieved 2006-10-24.
  2. **^** ["Mark Twain remembered by Google with a doodle"](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/tech/news/internet/Mark-Twain-remembered-by-Google-with-a-doodle/articleshow/10928674.cms). [*The Times of India*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Times_of_India). 30 November 2011. Retrieved 30 November 2011.
  3. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_ref-3) Thomson, David, In Nevada: The Land, The People, God, and Chance, New York: Vintage Books, 2000. [ISBN 0-679-77758-X](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/067977758X) p. 35
  4. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_ref-4) [Mark Twain, *The Jumping Frog: In English, Then in French, and Then Clawed Back into a Civilized Language Once More by Patient, Unremunerated Toil*, illustrated by F. Strothman, New York and London, Harper & Brothers, Publishers, MCMIII, pp. 64–66](http://books.google.com/books?hl=en&id=ld_3LPm8FKkC).
  5. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_ref-5) ["Obituary (New York Times)"](http://www.nytimes.com/learning/general/onthisday/big/0421.html). Retrieved 2009-12-27.
  6. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_ref-faulkner_6-0) Jelliffe, Robert A. (1956). *Faulkner at Nagano*. Tokyo: Kenkyusha, Ltd.

**Sources**

1. **Biography of Mark Twain**

**A Life Lived in a Rapidly Changing World: Samuel L. Clemens‚ 1835-1910**

As Twain’s books provide insight into the past‚ the events of his personal life further demonstrate his role as an eyewitness to history. During his lifetime‚ Sam Clemens watched a young United States evolve from a nation torn apart by internal conflicts to one of international power. He experienced America’s vast growth and change - from westward expansion to industrialization‚ the end of slavery‚ advancements in technology‚ big government and foreign wars. And along the way‚ he often had something to say about the changes happening in his country.

**The Early Years**

Samuel Clemens was born on November 30‚ 1835 in Florida‚ Missouri‚ the sixth of seven children. At the age of 4‚ Sam and his family moved to the small frontier town of Hannibal‚ Missouri‚ on the banks of the Mississippi River. Missouri‚ at the time‚ was a fairly new state (it had gained statehood in 1821) and comprised part of the country’s western border. It was also a slave state. Sam’s father owned one slave and his uncle owned several. In fact‚ it was on his uncle’s farm that Sam spent many boyhood summers playing in the slave quarters‚ listening to tall tales and the slave spirituals that he would enjoy throughout his life.

In 1847‚ when Sam was 11‚ his father died. Shortly thereafter he left school‚ having completed the fifth grade‚ to work as a printer’s apprentice for a local newspaper. His job was to arrange the type for each of the newspaper’s stories‚ allowing Sam to read the news of the world while completing his work.

# **Mark Twain remembered by Google with a doodle**

Tech | Nov 30, 2011, 11.19AM IST

Mark Twain was born on November 30, 1835 in Florida as Samuel Langhorne Clemens.

Page 1 of 4

NEW DELHI: Remember the story about [Tom Sawyer](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Tom-Sawyer) tricking his [friends](http://www.speakingtree.in/topics/life/friends) into painting a fence? That's the scene today's Google doodle depicts. Today's Google doodle, which stretches across the width of the page, pays tribute to American writer Mark Twain on his 176th birth anniversary.

The doodle, commemorating Mark Twain's birth anniversary, depicts the famous scene from his [book](http://www.speakingtree.in/topics/thoughts/book) 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer', where the protagonist, Tom Sawyer, is asked to paint a fence by his aunt Polly for dirtying his clothes in a fight with another boy. A disappointed Tom cleverly persuades his friends to trade him small treasures for the privilege of completing the chore for him.

Mark Twain was born on November 30, 1835 in [Florida](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Florida) as Samuel Langhorne Clemens. His best-known novels, 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' and its sequel, 'The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn', are timeless classics that appeal to readers of all ages.

Twain's literary treatment of the broader issues of slavery and racism led to many debates during that time.

Google came up with its first doodle in 1998 when its creators, [Larry Page](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Larry-Page) and [Sergey Brin](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/topic/Sergey-Brin), added a 'Burning Man' from the famous festival in Nevada.

Ever since, Google's design team created more than 300 doodles for its US website and another 700 worldwide to commemorate various occasions.

**4. The Jumping Frog, by Mark Twain**

**When he was gone the Boeotian, wondering what was the matter with the frog, lifted him up and examined him. And being turned upside down, he opened his mouth and vomited out the stones. Note. November, 1903. When I became convinced that the "Jump ing Frog" was a Greek story two or three thousand years old, I was sincerely happy, for apparently here was a most striking and satisfactory justification of a favorite theory of mine — to wit, that no occurrence is sole and solitary, but is merely a repetition of a thing which has happened before, and perhaps often. Still, when I later had a chance to see Professor Sidg- wick's book I was a little staggered, because of two things: the details were a little too faithful to the facts in the Calaveras incident for the comfort of my theory, and I could not help being suspicious of the Greek frog because he was willing to be fed with gravel. One can't beguile the modern frog with that product. By-and-by, in England, after a few years, I learned that there hadn't been any Greek frog in the business, and no Greek story about his adventures. Professor Sidgwick had not claimed that it was a Greek tale; he had merely synopsised the Calaveras tale and transferred the incident to classic 1900, and was much troubled about that censure, for his act had been innocent, he believing that the story's origin was so well known as to render formal mention of it unnecessary. I was very sorry for the censure, but it was not I that applied it. I would not have done it.**

**5.** *New York Times*

**Died of a Broken Heart**

The people of Redding, Bethel, and Danbury listened when they were told that the doctors said Mark Twain was dying of angina pectoris. But they say among themselves that he died of a broken heart. And this is a verdict not of popular sentiment alone. Albert Bigelow Paine, his biographer to be and literary executor, who has been constantly with him, said that for the last year at least Mr. Clemens had been weary of life. When Richard Watson Gilder died, he said: "How fortunate he is. No good fortune of that kind ever comes to me."

The man who has stood to the public for the greatest humorist this country has produced has in private life suffered overwhelming sorrows. The loss of an only son in infancy, a daughter in her teens and one in middle life, and finally of a wife who was a constant and sympathetic companion, has preyed upon his mind. The recent loss of his daughter Jean, who was closest to him in later years when her sister was abroad studying, was the final blow. On the heels of this came the first symptoms of the disease which was surely to be fatal and one of whose accompaniments is mental depression. Mr. Paine says that all heart went out of him and his work when his daughter Jean died. He has practically written nothing since he summoned his energies to write a last chapter memorial of her for his autobiography.

He told his biographer that the past Winter in Bermuda was gay but not happy. Bermuda is always gay in Winter and Mark Twain was a central figure in the gayety. He was staying at the home of William H. Allen. Even in Bermuda, however, Mr. Clemens found himself unable to write and finally relied on Mr. Allen's fifteen-year old daughter, Helen, to write the few letters he cared to send.

His health failed rapidly and finally Mr. Allen wrote to Albert Bigelow Paine that his friend was in a most serious condition. Mr. Paine immediately cabled to Mrs. Babrilowitsch, his surviving daughter, who was in Europe, and started himself on April 2 for Bermuda, embarking with the humorist for the return to New York immediately after his arrival. On the trip over Mark Twain became very much worse and finally realized his condition.

"It's a losing game," he said to his companion. "I'll never get home alive."

**Questions:**

1. What section does this symbol ([[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare#cite_note-1)) refer to?

**Samuel Langhorne Clemens** (November 30, 1835 – April 21, 1910),[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain" \l "cite_note-1)

1. If you wanted further explanation on one of the “Citations,” which section would you go to?
2. When was Twain born? Where? And how many children were in his family?
3. Where did Twain spend most of his early life?
4. Twain is referred to as "the father of [American literature](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_literature)."[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_note-faulkner-6)” in the article. Refer to the citations, how many authors were compared to make that claim?
5. Analyze the **sidebar/bio** on the right of the article. What do we learn about Twain’s wife when compared to Twain?
6. Using the article or citations, why is Twain’s novels “[*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Adventures_of_Tom_Sawyer) (1876) and its [sequel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sequel), [*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adventures_of_Huckleberry_Finn) (1885),[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_note-2)” referred to as the great American Novel?
7. Based on the answer to the previous question, what span of years would be considered Twain’s most successful?
8. Refer to the following citation and source, “[The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County] was even translated into classic Greek.[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain#cite_note-4)” Analyze the citation and source to find where the author of the article was incorrect or flawed in understanding.
9. If you wanted to look up more of Twain’s experiences in Virginia City and typed “Virginia City History” in a *Google* search engine, what would the results likely show?
10. Would adding the year Twain was in Virginia City help or hinder your search results in *Google?*
11. **Constructed Response:**

Analyze one of the many claims quoted or presented in the Wikipedia article. Utilize the citations and sources to prove that the author of the Wikipedia page was incorrect or held a flawed understanding of the topic they focused on.