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## Language, Thought and Culture in Mark twain's The Adventures of Tom Sawyer: A Literary Analysis

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## **Dedication**

To my dear and lovely family.

Aicha

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## **Abstract**

This research examines the most important elements language, thought, and culture and their great influence on our way of thinking and living in society. This study attempts to clarify the impact of background of the author on his way of writing and thinking by using his own dialect and tradition in his piece of writing. The connection between language and thought always comes to a question especially when we study second language because the two languages used influence people's thought. Yet it has been one of the most important topics for humans to understand the nature of human cognition. It is clear that language and culture are closely related to each other. This present dissertation is an analysis of Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* published in 1876. The story depicts the life of a young boy growing up in a Mississippi river town. Since that time, *Tom Sawyer* has come to be viewed as a complex work addressed to both children and adults. The ultimate aim of this study is to explain how language, thought, and culture could influence the writer and it appeared mainly in his novel and any piece of writing.

## المخلص

يدرس هذا البحث أهم عناصر اللغة والفكر والثقافة وتأثيرها الكبير على طريقة تفكيرنا و علاقاتنا في المجتمع. كما تهدف هذه الدراسة التي تتجلى واضحة في تأثير الخلفية التي عاشها المؤلف في طريقة كتابته وتفكيره باستخدام لهجته الخاصة وتقاليد في اعماله. كما أن العلاقة بين اللغة والفكر تأتي دائماً على شكل سؤال خاصة عندما ندرس اللغة الثانية لان اكتساب لغتين مختلفتين له تأثير كبير على الفكر. يعتبر هذا الموضوع من بين أهم الموضوعات على مر العصور بالنسبة للبشر في فهم طبيعة الإدراك البشري. حيث انه من الواضح أن اللغة والثقافة ترتبط ارتباطاً وثيقاً ببعضهما البعض الواحدة تكمل الاخرى. فهذه الأطروحة الحالية عبارة عن تحليل لرواية مارك توين لكتابه "مغامرات توم سوير" التي نُشرت في عام 1876. القصة التي تصور حياة صبي صغير نشأ في بلدة نهريّة في ميسيسيبي. فمنذ ذلك الوقت ، أصبح توم سوير ينظر إليه على أنه عمل معقد موجه لكل من الأطفال والكبار. غير ان الهدف النهائي من هذه الدراسة هو شرح كيف يمكن أن تؤثر اللغة والفكر والثقافة على الكاتب ، ويبدو أنها تظهر بشكل رئيسي في روايته و في أي جزء من كتاباته.

## *List of Contents*

Dedication .....	<b>I</b>
Acknowledgements .....	<b>II</b>
Abstract .....	<b>III</b>
المُلخَص.....	<b>IV</b>
General Introduction .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter One: Language, Thought and Culture’s Interrelationship</b>	
Introduction .....	<b>6</b>
1.1 Language, Thought and Culture.....	<b>6</b>
1.1.1 Language .....	<b>6</b>
1.1.2 Thought .....	<b>8</b>
1.1.3 Culture .....	<b>9</b>
1.2 Language, Thought and Culture’s Relationships.....	<b>10</b>
1.2.1.TheRelationship between Language and thought .....	<b>10</b>
1.2.2 Language and Culture Completing each other.....	<b>11</b>
1.3 Language Variation in the Speech of Community .....	<b>12</b>
1.4 The Language Variationused by Authors during Realism .....	<b>13</b>
Conclusion.....	<b>14</b>
<b>Chapter Two:Mark Twain’s The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life</b>	
Introduction .....	<b>16</b>
2.1. English Literature .....	<b>16</b>
2.2. American literature .....	<b>17</b>
2.2.1 Modern American literature .....	<b>18</b>
2.2.2. The Emergence of Naturalism and Realism in America (1860-1930)....	<b>19</b>
2.2.3 Regionalism and Local Color .....	<b>19</b>
2.3 The Impact of Mark twain’s Style in American Literature .....	<b>20</b>
2.3 Psychological Realism .....	<b>21</b>

2.4. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer .....	21
2.5 Tom Sawyer as main character .....	22
2.5.1. Huckleberry Finn the Shiny Character for Samuel Clemens .....	22
2.5.2 Aunt Polly and her relationship with Tom .....	23
2.5.3 Sid Sawyer .....	23
2.5.4 Injun Joe .....	23
2.6 Twain's style in the Novel .....	23
2.7 Tom Sawyer as a Juvenile Literary Novel.....	24
2.8. Penrod and Tom Sawyer in American Literature .....	24
2.9 The adventures of Huckleberry Finn as Direct Sequel to The Adventures of Tom Sawyer .....	25
Conclusion .....	25
<b>Chapter Three Language, Thought and Culture in 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer': A Literary Analysis</b>	
Introduction.....	27
3.1 The American Cultural Life in Tom Sawyer's Story .....	27
3.2The Role of Authority in Tom Sawyer's Maturation .....	28
3.3 The Aspects of Social Class and Proper Behavior in Society.....	28
3.4 Racism and Religion in the View of the Author .....	29
3.5 Superstition by the View of Mark Twain in Tom Sawyer .....	29
3.6 Morality and immorality of human society in Twain's Novel.....	29
3.7 Important Techniques used in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer.....	30
3.8 Revealing Tom Sawyer's Personality in the Novel.....	31
Conclusion .....	32
General Conclusion.....	33
References .....	35

# **General Introduction**

## General Introduction

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The relationship between culture, language and thought has been one of the most important topics to understand the nature of human cognition. Language is the basic means of communication in each culture. It expresses cultural reality of two speakers in a given society. Language not only embodies cultural reality, but it is also viewed as a symbol of social identity. Exploring the different ways in which the word as a group of sounds or symbols is described by the speakers of different languages due to their cultural diversity and its effect on the different ways of thinking about the world has been for long a crucial area of research and investigation.

A variety of different authors discuss the influence of one's language, culture and thought on literature, such as Claire Kramisch, Sapir Whorf, Victoria Fromkin and others. However, language has been a subject of speculation for several centuries. Psychologists define it as a difficult topic to study because of the lack of direct evidences. Noam Chomsky in his book *Syntactic Structures* (1957) defines language as a set of finite and infinite of sentences each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements. Humans use language to transfer thoughts from one mind to another. Language can be regarded as a means or a system of communication whereby a given social community cooperates and interacts; it is, thus, a social phenomenon. It is a medium for thought and a vehicle for literary expression. On the other hand, culture is shared beliefs, values and behaviors of a social group. Thought, however, is an innate process born with all humans; the theory of thought as a fundamental phenomenon is distinct from belief, tradition and a desire of thinking (Davis, 2003). *The adventures of Tom Sawyer* was written by Mark Twain in 1876. He was an awesome promoter of history and culture. This novel is a great example to study the impact of the writer's daily life, his dialect, culture, and way of thinking and viewing the world on his literary style. In effect, Mark Twain has always been regarded as the most famous writer in his epoch. His use of description invites readers into a story in ways where we feel like firsthand witnesses. Twain's colloquial and street wise use of language has a great influence on readers as me.

The reasons behind undertaking this study, hence, are many. First, when I was in the third year at university, one of the tasks we had in a literature class was analyzing the language used by Mark Twain in his novel "*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*". When we had discussed the novel and got deeper with characters, it attracted me a lot; it was so interesting to study and go profoundly through it. Moreover, the techniques used by the writer helps us, as students, to be more curious to consider the modern American techniques in literature. Second, the novel itself attracted my attention; hence, the author's style of writing and use of descriptive ways

## General Introduction

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make me see it as the funniest and interested novel. Third, I became keener on reading such a novel, mainly, when I had watched it as a cartoon on TV; that drove my imagination while reading. Finally, the triadic relationship between language, thought and culture in literature, as one of the most important and debatable elements in humans' lives, drove my inquiry. So, the events of the story and the language used are among the background motives to study it.

The present study casts light on *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* as a great story filled with great wonder. It is a novel that embodies the simple life, innocence, passion, and an incredible use of descriptive language. The vocabulary of Mark Twain is on glossy throughout all his work. Fundamentally, this work is an investigation into the relationship between language, thought and culture, exploring to what extent one can affect the other. The study focuses on Mark Twain's novel as an illustration of this triadic relation in American literature. Therefore, the following research questions can be raised:

1. To what extent do language, thought and culture affect each other?
2. How can literature reflect the author's daily life?
3. Why did Mark Twain use his own dialect in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*?

A review of literature revealed that a variety of authors, theories and fields have discussed the influence of language and culture on literature. Human beings can communicate with each other, so they are able to exchange ideas, knowledge, beliefs, and wishes and so on. So, we can laugh to express happiness, we can smile to express amusement but our system of communication before anything else is language; it is impossible to build a society without language. Language is, thus, par excellence, the means whereby humans communicate and commune in society. However, culture has an impact on the way we think and write. Culture is a memory and control device of society. The scholars discuss the relationship between culture, language and literature, and defined the relationship between the three elements as an important issue to discuss, because the world has become a global village.

In a relevant study, Kramsch(1998) has discussed how language affects culture and the interrelationship between language and culture. She believes that language is formed to present our ideas and concepts; however, culture can be the norms among a group of people. She focuses on social and political changes and highlights their effects on language. Yet, she offers an accessible survey of key concepts such as social context and cultural authenticity, using insights from fields which include linguistics, sociology and anthropology.

## General Introduction

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In the same regard Rubin(1963) in Arts and Letters. He discusses language and experience in Mark Twains' novel *The Adventures of huckleberry Finn*. His study helps students to understand modern American literature in both *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The writer tries to use special language in order to make his novel more realistic. His literary techniques and the use of specific language in order to make the literary image that Twain created available for the study of American experience.

According to Hoben (1956) a few of those who have written about Mark Twain have called attention to this mastery of style, and paid attention of writing. However, Mark Twain is usually greeted as an expert on the writer's use of language.

In the light of what has been reviewed, this dissertation will be an analysis of the language and the literary style used in the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain. Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) was a social critic as well as a novelist, and one of the most famous and influential American writers; yet, Tom Sawyer (1876) features one of the best loved characters in American fiction. The novel is redolent of life in the Mississippi towns in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; in which Mark twain spent his own youth. However, Huckleberry Finn is a fictional character created by Mark Twain who first appeared in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and then in *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

The importance of this study lies in highlighting the impact of thought and culture on the writer's language and how the writer can reflect this own background and culture on his way of writing.

The present study contains three main chapters. The first chapter defines the notions language, thought and culture and sheds light on their interconnection as a debatable subject. Writers have opened the door to discuss this subject by comparing deferent novels, short stories and articles to understand the powerful of the authors' background on their literary works. The chapter introduces Mark Twain as a great example to study the influence of culture and thought on the way of writing. The Second chapter, however ,is an over view about Mark Twain's novel: *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*; it analyzes the novel's main characters in the social life of American people at that time, and explores the major techniques used by the writer during modern American literature. The third chapter highlights the relationship between the three aforementioned elements, considering how the social life can influence the author's writings.

## **Chapter One**

# **Language, Thought and Culture's Interrelationship**

## Introduction

Language, thought and culture are the main three elements which have great impact on human beings and help any group of people in communicating, exchanging ideas, sending opinion or feeling, asking help and building society. This chapter highlights the interrelationship between language, thought and culture and how can each element influence the other one. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is a great example to deal with language and culture. Language and culture appear clearly when readers start reading such a novel. Also, they can understand the life during that time and the language they used. The writer adds such words from his own dialect to reflect his own language. However, during the Realistic movement authors' styles were changed; they started to write with new style in literature. Yet, it was a period that led many authors to depict the reality as it was which makes the readers as real characters within the story.

### 1.1 Language, Thought and Culture

Different philosophers and linguists such as Humboldt and Jespersen consider the interrelationship between language, thought, and culture as an interesting subject. In his early research, Humboldt (2007) declared that language and culture were synonymous; however; Jespersen (1922) believed that English was superior to other languages like French. Yet, the modern anthropologists refused these statements. Moreover, the Sapir-whorf hypothesis<sup>1</sup> clarifies the relationship between language, thought and culture and how humans use language in cultural context which had great effect on thought. Moreover, Sapir explained that culture can be developed only by language. Those main three elements language, thought and culture are the most important aspects in human's society (Salzmann, Stanlaw, Adachi, 2012).

#### 1.1.1 Language

Language is the basic means of communication in every society. It is a socially acquired phenomenon, and all the culturally bound languages differ dramatically from one another in terms of the description of the natural word (Jourdan&Tuite, 2006). The main use of language is to transfer thoughts from one mind to another mind. The linguistic information that enters into one person's mind cause people to entertain a new thought with profound effects on his/her world knowledge. Language neither creates nor distorts conceptual life (Hill&Mannhein,

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<sup>1</sup>The Sapir-Whorf hypothesis is the theory, formulated by two linguists: Edward Sapir and Benjamin Lee Whorf, which stipulates that the individual's thoughts and actions are determined by the language or languages he/she speaks (Husseini, 2012).

1992). Yet, thought comes first, while language is an expression; i.e., one thinks about the world around then expresses his thought with language. However, there are certain limitations among world languages, and humans cannot express all what they think. Some philosophers and linguists like Benjamin and Sapir have argued that language plays an important role in shaping thought. Yet, the philosopher Aristotle said that humans cannot think without language. On the other hand, language limits thought and cannot explain exactly what people have in their mind. However, thought is an innate tool to express emotions and needs (Gleitman&Papafragou,2012).

Language has been considered as a complex phenomenon for human communication .It is the only tool for exchanging ideas and information; however, in the domain of communication each language of the world is different from another one on both lingual and cultural grounds (Parikh, 2001).Yet, this diversity in world languages from linguistic standpoints ranges from the clear distinction of pronunciation and vocabulary to the more complex differences of grammar. The diversity of cultural standpoints related to different languages can be seen in the variety of cultural connotations assigned to these linguistic codes(Harris, 1988).

A variety of authors, theorists, and psychologists have discussed and defined the origins of language. It has been a subject of speculation for several centuries. Psychologists define it as a difficult topic to study because of the lack of direct evidences(Yule, 2014).Charles Darwin's vision about the origins of language, for example, was the ability of humans to produce sounds which means they developed musical ability prior to language (ibid).

In the same regard, Taylor (1997) discusses the theories of the origins of language from a linguistic point of view in secular writing. According to him, evolution had less effect on linguistics than on other social sciences; yet, history shows that secondary effects were felt. No true link has ever been found with animal communication.

Furthermore, Perry (2004) has explained that there is no genetic code that leads a particular child to speak English, Arabic, or any other language. He has discussed how humans born with an innate capacity to make 40 sounds and that humans' genetics allows their brain to make associations between sounds and objects, actions, or ideas. The combination of these capabilities, according to Perry, allows the creation of language which makes it specific for human beings.

Noam Chomsky<sup>2</sup> who tried hard to restore the important subject in human's universal ability to speak coherently any language in the world, and restored the balance by criticizing the "empty slate" stance of Skinner and others, argues that this was insufficient to account for all the facts(Chomsky,2006). It is significant that Chomsky, though an agnostic, regards human language as "miraculous", distinguishing humans from animals.

The most essential to modern linguistics is the image that human language is a natural object; according to Yang(2002), "our species-specific ability to acquire a language, our tacit knowledge of the enormous complexity of language, and our capacity to use language in free, appropriate, and infinite ways are attributed to a property of the natural world, our brain"(p,1). It explains that humans' brain is the creator's miracle because it can produce infinite words and create different words in order to achieve any goal(ibid).

During the twentieth century most of writers avoid the subject of the origins of language. However, De Saussure was a Swiss linguist and the founder of modern linguistics. His attitude towards the changed interests of linguists consequents on the seminal work of de Saussure<sup>3</sup>, stating that language is far more significant to linguists than the history of language. (Yang, Araki, 2014).

### 1.1.2 Thought

The philosopher Taylor(2000) defines the word thought, as an amazing thing that has given us science, literature, morality and philosophy. He has viewed thought not just from the technology side or literature, but within the entire social world. Thoughts, according to him, are the little voice inside humans; yet, they have the power to create new realities. Thinking allows humans to make sense of, interpret, represent or [model](#) the world they experience, and to make predictions about that world. It is therefore helpful to an organism with needs, objectives, and desires as it makes [plans](#) or otherwise attempts to accomplish those goals.

In the same regard, Greene (1987) has discussed the idea of thinking, knowledge, and intelligence as interconnected elements. The approaches of thinking and intelligence assume that there is such a thing as general thinking and creative abilities which people can apply across

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<sup>2</sup>Naom Chomsky is an American linguistic, philosopher, social critic and political activist. He is one of the founders of the field of cognitive science. He is the father of modern linguistics .

<sup>3</sup>Saussure published little himself, but his students in Geneva reconstructed his ideas from their lecture notes, which were taught since 1906 and published posthumously after his death, in 1916 as '*Cours de linguistique générale*' [Course in general linguistics]. His work has proved a rich field for subsequent investigators, and has inspired numerous interpretations(Taylor, 2002).

a whole range of problems, regardless of what skills a particular task requires; in other words, that intelligent thinking is 'content free', according to Greene.

As psychology developed from philosophy and became an independent and separate area of study in the late 1800s and early 1900s, many schools of psychology, or "isms" arose. Each school had a different point of view about the best way to study man. The structuralists searched for the elements of mind; the functionalists, much influenced by Darwinism theory of evolution<sup>4</sup>, studied the ways in which mental processes and behaviours help organisms adapt. Two of its proponents were William James<sup>5</sup> and John Dewey. The behaviourists, on the other hand, rejected the study of mind altogether and concentrated on the objective study of what people and animals do (originally developed by B Watson, followed by I. Pavlov and B.F Skinner late on). The gestalt school, developed in Germany in the early 1900, studied mind and behaviour, emphasising the patterns of relationships and "fields of force" in mental and behavioural processes. Psychoanalysis, which originated outside psychology in psychiatric practice by Sigmund Freud, nevertheless added so many ideas to psychology that it is sometimes, erroneously, considered to be a school of psychology (Morgan & King, 1975, p.25).

Hence, scientists have conducted many studies all over the world to find out how the human brain works, and the real meaning of thought and language is the interrelationship between them. The first school of thought, structuralism, was advocated by the founder of the first psychology lab, Wilhelm Wundt. Almost immediately, other theories began to emerge and vie for dominance in psychology (Billington, 1988).

### 1.1.3 Culture

The term culture was given hundreds of definitions in all domains and throughout time. Culture can be an integration of some components that shape the individual behavior (Brown, 1994, p. 170, in Cakir, 2006, p. 155). Culture is the characteristic of a group of people defined by everything such as language, religion, lifestyle etc. Different people in different societies have different cultures but they also have some similarities. The culture varies in different things such as clothes, foods, religions and many others. Culture is generally learnt from elders;

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<sup>4</sup>Charles Darwin in the 1870s applied his theory of evolution to humans

<sup>5</sup>James' textbook *The principles of Psychology*, published in 1890, is a classical statement of the functionalist point of view (Morgan & King, 1975, p. 3).

in that, culture is not the thing that can be studied but it is just the process people pass through it (Oatey, 2012).

The relationship between language and culture like the coin they said "Language and culture two sides of the same coin". Language is part of human being's nature and culture is a group of people living in the same place and sharing everything: language, religion, and traditions. Language is part of people's daily life to express their needs (Kramersch, 2010)

## **1.2 Language, Thought and Culture's Relationships**

The interrelationship between language, thought, and culture is so interrelated. Humans can understand thought or ideas by using language and when people use any language they were aware of its culture. So language, thought, and culture are the three elements that affect each other, and the relationship is even deeper because it is a philosophical issue (Stanlaw, Salzmann, & Adachi, 2012).

### **1.2.1. The Relationship between Language and thought**

The correlation between language and thought was the focus of many researchers in the past century and is still open for discussion nowadays, to point to the famous impossibility of determining which one of the two processes shapes the other (Pattakos, 2004).

Anthropologists generally find it necessary to learn the languages of the people they are studying, and they realised early that the languages themselves might provide valuable clues about the cultures under investigation. In the late nineteenth century, the anthropologist Franz Boas in the USA laid particular stress upon the importance of Native American languages in the study of Native American cultures and, thanks to his influence and that of his student Edward Sapir, American linguistics was largely born out of anthropology (Fromkin et al., 2007).

In Britain, the anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski drew comparable attention to the study of languages in the early twentieth century, and his ideas greatly influenced J.R. Firth, widely regarded as the founder of linguistics in Britain. Anthropological linguists have been greatly interested in such topics as kinship systems, color terms, metaphors, systems for conferring names upon people and places, connections between languages and myths, folk taxonomies (systems for classifying animals and plants), the treatment of space and time in languages, the expression of sex differences and social differences in speech, and the structure of narratives; more than most linguists, they have been intrigued by the linguistic relativity hypothesis (Stern, 1991; Prasad, 2008).

The linguists Sapir and Whorf, who gave their names to the Sapir Whorf hypothesis, have stated that such idea transmitted by thoughts in one language cannot be understood by other individuals who think in another language; this is the difficulty of language that makes it unique. Humans are superior from animals just because of language. The latter has gone as far as saying that reality is relative and subjective in terms of physical objects or phenomena, because shaped by the different native languages through which individuals think(Edwards,2017).

According to researchers who write something about the relationship between language and thought, language has the power to change and read ideas inside the mind. So the question of whether language has any influence on the workings of human thought has been puzzling researchers in various fields of studies since the beginning of the 1900s. With the development of interdisciplinary areas that range from neuroscience and robotics to artificial intelligence, cognitive psychology and philosophy of language, the debate on the interaction between language and thought has recently emerged afresh (Tihan,2017).

Chomsky(1975)has regarded the idea that language and thought are two main interconnected elements in human's mind; he asserts that:

Language is a mirror of mind in a deep and significant sense. It is a product of human intelligence ... By studying the properties of natural languages, their structure, organization, and use, we may hope to learn something about human nature; something significant, if it is true that human cognitive capacity is the truly distinctive and most remarkable characteristic of the species. (p. 4)

In this view, then, learning a particular language is merely a matter of learning the details which distinguish that language from other languages.

### **1.2.2 Language and Culture Completing each other**

Language and culture are two essential elements in building any society; however, one element would complete the other. Language is the principal element to explain inner issues, while culture differs from one group of people to another. Culture, in another aspect, can facilitate success in language being learned such as affective factors. Language reflects the culture of each society; however, the relationship between language, thought and culture in particular was defined clearly in Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, which clarifies that each society and culture lives in its own linguistic world (Salzmann et al.,2012).

According to Edward Sapir (1921), the language is a system of changing ideas it is primarily spoken not written. Then, it developed to a written way. Every language is itself a collective art of expression. There is concealed in it a particular set of esthetic factors phonetic, rhythmic, symbolic and morphological, which it does not completely share with any other language. These factors may either merge their potencies with those of that unknown, absolute language to which have referred this is the method of Shakespeare and Heine—or they may weave a private, technical art fabric of their own, the innate art of the language intensified or sublimated (Sapir, 1921).

Language acquisition is extremely complex the development of child language. However, the acquisition of language “is doubtless the greatest intellectual feat any one of us is ever required to perform” (Bloomfield, p.313). Piaget and Vygotsky<sup>6</sup> dealt with the classical theories of the relation between language and thought. According to Piaget’s theory about children cognitive development, children do not memorize language as it is. The child has the ability to produce infinite sentences without memorizing the language (Fromkin, et al. 2007). By contrast, Vygotsky’s theory of language development emphasizes mainly social learning and the interaction in the society; however, thought and language as initially separate systems consider the two merge at around two years of age, producing verbal thought. Mental operations are regarded as embodied in the structure of language, and hence cognitive development results from an internalization of language (Saffran, Senghas & Trueswell, 2001).

Thus, language and thought are so close elements; each one completes the other. In literature, authors are influenced by their background, culture, and language, which have great influence on their way of writing and thinking. As an example, most of authors are inspired by their lives and write this in their novels such as Virginia Woolf in *The Hours* by Michael Cunningham, and Mark Twain in *Tom Sawyer*.

### **1.3 Language Variation in the Speech of Community**

Language is the main element in human’s communication with a group of people. In order to communicate within a group of people and exchange ideas, it needs some sorts of social context. This interaction requires an understanding and recognition between a language and people.

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<sup>6</sup> Two of the most recognized cognitive psychologists, Jean Piaget and Lev Vygotsky, developed theories that addressed cognitive development and learning among children and adolescents. While there are similarities between the two theories, differences exist.

Hence, this connection is complex, when it changes from formal to informal; yet, social context is a major factor that drives our language choices (Amberg&Vause 2010).

Language is classified as a powerful tool of communication in any speech community. Human's ability to produce infinite group of concepts and sentences to communicate in his society. Furthermore, the variation of language changed from country to another and even in the same country. William Labov opened the door on the relationship between social structure and linguistic structure. He considered as the founder discipline of variation sociolinguistics, it studied all the aspects that influence the use of language (Meyerhoff,2006).

#### **1.4 The Language Variation used by Authors during Realism**

First language reflects the individual characteristics of a person's beliefs, traditions, and community. Also, it is a tool of communication that takes place within some sort of social context (Crystal,2003). The realistic movement focuses on depicting the reality as it is by using such concepts from their own society in order to send the image of the real character. In the realistic movement the objective of narrator is not directly mentioned to the reader but must be inferred from reading. Realistic writers and their works, such as Mark Twain in *Tom Sawyer* paved the way for people to realize and distinguish the ideal from the real (Garçia,2015).

When a person knows a language, s/he can speak, understand and be understood by others who know this language (Fromkin et al., 2007).

knowledge of a language enables people combine sounds to form words, words to form phrases, and phrases to form sentences.

Having said that, knowledge of a language determines which strings of words are well-formed sentences and which are not. Linguistic knowledge of a language includes rules for forming sentences. These rules must be finite in length and finite in number, so that they can be stored in our finite brains. Yet, they must permit people to form and understand an infinite set of new sentences. These rules are unconscious rules acquired by young children as they develop language. To distinguish language from other systems of communication, a set of design features of human language are agreed upon, including arbitrariness, productivity, duality, displacement and cultural transmission.

By being arbitrary, language is agreed upon by convention. Bauer (2007: 3) explains that “a language is a social fact, a kind of social contract. It exists not in an individual, but in a community”.

Language can be regarded as a means or s system of communication whereby a given social community cooperates and interacts; it is, thus, a social phenomenon. It is a medium for thought and a vehicle for literary expression. It can be acquired by an infant in a specific time; it is an individual property which is related to human cognitive system. It is system that is unique to human beings and different from, for instance, the systems of communication that animals employ. Language exists in three modes: speech, writing, and signs (which are used by people who are deaf). Although all languages (with the exception of sign languages) exist in spoken form, only some have written forms.

## **Conclusion**

This chapter shed light on the influence and relationship between language, thought, and culture as three main aspects of human's relationship and communication. It can be concluded that language has great impact on thought, and thought originally is something innate and external that is born with us .Moreover, culture is all the traditions that people develop and live in the society. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is great example to study the influence of culture and language on the writer; Mark Twain has used his own dialect to express realty as it is which involves the reader within the story as the main character. This technique is so influential and adopted by many authors during the realistic movement.

## **Chapter Two**

**Mark Twain's *The adventures of Tom Sawyer* and the Influence of his Social Life**

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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### **Introduction**

This chapter gives an overview about the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* written by the most popular and famous author Mark Twain. It analyzes the characters and their relationships in the novel. The chapter highlights the influence of author's real life on the main character and the protagonist of the novel 'Tom Sawyer'. In order to entertain both boys and girls and to remind adults of what they once were themselves, and appeal to such a wide audience, the author chooses a setting that permits adventure and nostalgia. Many works have been done by Mark Twain and became so popular, but his two famous novels "*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*" (1876) and "*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*" (1884). Remain Twain's best known and most widely read work (Shelden, 2010).

### **2.1. English Literature**

Literature is a written work that expresses and communicates thought, feeling and attitudes towards life. Humans can create life by their imagination through literature, because literature is a vital record of what men have thought and felt about their experience, which is interesting for all of people. It means that literature can be used to express thought, feeling, or idea about life. It refers to all written work which is considered as an art, to be whether fiction or nonfiction, poetry or prose. Yet, Literature includes different forms such as novels, drama or poems; they are classified and categorized according to historical era(John, 1887).

Generally, literature can be defined as the individual expression of human being which comes from experience, feeling, thought, ideas, spirit, faith in the form of concrete description using language(Sapir,1921). A work of literature gives pleasure for everyone who reads it, and it is considered interesting since it presents many things about life which are very common around people. Moreover, literature is something written with soul and defines culture, which lasts for ages. In fact, it provides humans an alternative reality (Crown, 2018).

Literature which is written in the English language can be referred to as 'English literature'; which is produced by writers who are not necessarily from England. As an example Joseph Conrad is a very famous writer in English but he is a Polish; also, James Joyce is an Irish, Edgar Allan Poe is American, and Ahmed Selman Rushdie is Indian. However, English literature comprises all the varieties and dialects of English spoken around the world. English language spread because of the historical events , at that time, the British were living under the surveillance of Rome. Yet, English literature was growing up in Northern Germany

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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Scandinavia, where the Saxons used to live. Some of the northern tribes settled across the coast, they brought with them poetry (Arthur, 2014).

On the other hand, the old English literature was written by old English, however, the oral tradition was very strong in the British culture and most of literary works were performed. English Literature until the early of 19th century did not include literature written in the other languages of Britain. Epic poems were very popular, including Beowulf, have survived to the present day, also The most popular and well-known understanding of Old English poetry continues to be Sievers' alliterative verse (Fletcher, 2002).

### **2.2. American literature**

American literature is unique, particularly when observing its beauty and power and this is due not only to its great writers but also to dialects and other varieties which have contributed a lot to the success of American literary works (Haynes,2003). Major American authors agree that the history of the American literature stretches across more than 400 years from the early period till nowadays. Among the earliest works of American literature John Smith wrote histories of Virginia published in 1608. In the middle of the 19th century, the United States went through significant circumstances and especially after the decades that followed the Civil War which were marked by a shift from Romanticism to Realism. However, the first manifestation of Realism in America was called "Local Color Fiction" (Skredsvig,2001) which became an important part of American literature, focusing on a particular region of the country, and seeking to represent accurately the culture and beliefs of that area.

Yet, most of authors divided American literature into five major periods. First, the colonial period (17<sup>th</sup> century to 1830) began with the age of colonialism, because the Native Americans did not develop anything they call "Literature" it was all orally. The American literature characters were influenced by several factors like colonialism, religion, and the issue of living in the new land, however, it's all connected with French, Spanish, or Dutch literatures. American writers brought English ideas and their ways of writing, their back ground and culture had influenced their writings. The major topics in the early periods were the issues of living in a new land and travelling (Halleck,2002). Second, the Romantic Era or the period of Romanticism was a reaction against classicism and its values, such as reason and form. It emerged in Germany then spread quickly in England, France, and America. Writings during this period were influenced by Indians and their culture. The writings emphasize only on the idealization and perfection of characters. Yet, their works were less political and religious, the topics were

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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mostly American, and the writers stressed imagination, nature and individualism (Vanspanckeren,1994).Third, realism and naturalism represent the most important and influential period to Mark Twain. One can understand that era by analyzing the literary works written by Samuel Clemens(Gale,2006). Finally, at the beginning of twentieth century, Modern English Literature appeared. The period was marked by sudden and unexpected breaks with traditional ways of viewing and interacting with the world. It was divided into two periods, modernism and post-modernism (Gray,2011; Vanspanckeren,1994).

### **2.2.1 Modern American literature**

By the second decade of the twentieth century, America faced radical changes in political, social, cultural and also literary work. The modern literary movement had great impact on all drama, poetry, and fiction. However, literary forms of that period were somehow varied, drama and poetry tended authors toward radical and technical experiments (Drucker,1994). At that time, writers were looking for new ways and topics for writing. In fact, the social life and industrialization had influenced the authors. Their writings expressed their feelings about living in modern age, some of them wrote positively and others negatively. However, their style is more complicated, and for the first time, the modernist reader feels like the story is going nowhere; modernist writers used to address a group of people to understand their works. Amongst famous modernist writers were Ernest Hemingway, Ezra Pound, Virginia Woolf, T.S Eliot and William Faulkner. Also, the modernism popular works are still studied till nowadays such as *The old Man and the sea*, *The Waste land* and *Great Gatsby*(Vanspanckeren,1994).

Modern American literature was during twentieth and twenty-first centuries; it influences all domains: political, social, and literature issue such as prose, poetry and drama. The period is marked by two significant aesthetic movements: Modernism and Postmodernism. The first describes the avant-garde styles of the early twentieth century, while Postmodernism describes the period of art that evolved after world war, all aspects of life influenced the author's way of writing by adapting new themes and techniques. One of the major themes is Alienation, an important theme in modern literature, in which writers describe the effect of war in terms of disconnection. Alienation is also reflected by the types of narration that modernist authors influenced. For instance, William Faulkner's *novel I Lay Dying* used multiple viewpoints to suggest that reality is broken and fragmented (Chaudhary, 2011).

## Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life

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### 2.2.2. The Emergence of Naturalism and Realism in America (1860-1930)

In Europe, Realism and Naturalism were classified as a reaction to the Romanticism period. Because their works and techniques changed by the influence of historical and social issues. Literary realism was written from objectives that simply represent the subject matter of the story. However, Realist Writers during this period addressed social, economic, and political issues; it is contemporary culture, which focused mainly on describing with its negatives or positives. It was the era of industrialization and migration. Realist fiction had a documentary quality which allowed writers to report the details of specific historical era. Most realist authors acclaimed their ability to capture regional dialects. They also addressed themes of religion, philosophy and morality in their works. This realist movement had developed in France and later on spread to other countries, such as Russia, England and the United States.

It was in the late 1800s that realism appeared in The United States, and amongst its best known authors were William Dean Howells, Henry James, and Mark Twain. In literature writers use realism as a literary technique to describe story with its events as real life, such as setting, characters, themes, etc., without using elaborate imagery, or figurative language, such as similes and metaphors (Gross,2006). Through realism, writers explain things without any exaggeration in language events. Realism is something opposite to romanticism and idealism. Moreover, Realism as a literary movement attempts to illustrate life without romantic subjectivity and idealization. It focuses on the actualities of life by dealing the daily life of people, yet, and the common place characters of everyday life. The breaking from the traditions attracts writers and authors. Moreover, the purpose of using realism is to emphasize the reality and morality that is usually relativistic and intrinsic for the people as well as the society. This sort of realism makes the readers face reality as it happens in the world, rather than in the make-believe world of fantasy (Taghizadeh, 2014).

### 2.2.3 Regionalism and Local Color

The term "Local Color" refers to a literary movement that appear during the Civil War to the nineteenth century. Local Color is style of writing derived from the presentation of the features and peculiarities of a particular locality and its inhabitants it emerged mainly in the realistic movement. Although the term '*local color*' can be applied to any type of writing, it is used only to describe a kind of American literature. Local color was the single most-popular form of American literature only. It provides a nostalgic memory and awakened the public interest ([www.britanica.com](http://www.britanica.com)). Local color emphasize mainly on the character of particular

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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region, and the dialect used by people from the same region who shared the same traditions . Mark Twain was influenced by the local color story like other writers, and the humorist subgenre is most clearly apparent in Twain's [work](#) in "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," (1865) and his books about life on the [Mississippi River such as](#) *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, 1884*( Abrams,1988)

### **2.3 The Impact of Mark twain's Style in American Literature**

Samuel Langhorne Clemens, known by his famous name Mark Twain. He was an American author, who wrote a series of famous books. He was called "the father of the American literature" by William Faulkner. Twain was known by his humorous writings, radical views on imperialism, and civil rights. He was born in Missouri, and faced a difficult childhood. Twain's career started during the civil war ,yet, his the success, of his story "The celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" earned him national acclaim, paving the way for a successful writing career. He began working as a typesetter in 1851,in newspaper by contributing articles and humorous sketchers to the 'Hannibal Journal' (Langenhoff, 2003).

Mark Twain's great success in 1976, started when he published his popular work *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. The book, with its heartwarming theme of young active , naughty, and adventurer boy. Later on, he published the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* in 1884 acclaim as a direct sequel to *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is a story about the boyhood adventures of two friends, Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn. The book inspired all of stage, television and film adaptations. On the other hand, the novel is commonly named among the great American novels. The book which explores notions of race and identity is both controversial and extremely popular. The year 1876 was important for Mark Twain, in particular, and America, in general. It was the year of 'the Declaration of Independence' and also the year that Mark Twain published *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. It is a classical work which defines the small town of American life for generations to come. It is the first novel written by his own; it marked a major step on his career as an American writer with a distinctive style of American English and culture (Shelden, 2010).

During the first half of the nineteenth century, the United States had faced very huge transformations in all domains economic, political, social ,and literature. First, the rapid

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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expansion of the rail road and manufacturing industry, which had great impact; as the nation grew, then the opportunities for writers also flourished at that time. It opened the door for writers to publish their texts in newspapers and magazines, such as Irving Washington, Edgar Allan Poe, and Samuel Clemens. John Smith, however, is considered to be the first American writer (Gray, 2011).

From the colonial period to the Revolutionary era (1700\_1800), writers changed their way of writing and their topics also changed to become more politically, anti-British and revolutionary oriented. Most famous writers during that era are Benjamin Franklin, John Hector who is the father of the American novel, and Thomas Jefferson; those writers flourished the American literature at that time( [www.Encyclopedia.com](http://www.Encyclopedia.com) ).

According to Ramen Sharma and Chaudhary (2011), the most popular themes and techniques used by writers in the American literature are slavery, freedom, hard work, American dream, idealism and realism. In any specific aspect of literature, or particular work, literary techniques deliberate constructions of language which of the authors used to convey meaning. The author's use of literary techniques usually appears as allusion, irony, metaphor, paradox, parallelism or onomatopoeia ( Izaguirre, 2014).

### **2.3 Psychological Realism**

Twain's literary career is truly fascinating in its strangeness. He is one of America greatest writers, he tried hardly to play with the psychological side of the reader ,when the competent writer used real facts from his own life like Mississippi river, some adventures from his own experience which make audiences as a character in the story.

### **2.4. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer**

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is most widely read book by Mark Twain. The novel's story resemble to Twain's young life in village. The novel's story was about a young boy growing up in small town in Mississippi River. The novel considered as a complex work addresses both children and adults. However, the writer's style and his clever use of literary techniques adopted in the novel attracted the reader who feels as one of the characters within the story. However Twain uses a certain style of writing in order to achieve his desired mood. Throughout the decades, the work of Mark Twain acquired fame and popularity through its ability to entertain the audience. Mark Twain used different literary techniques such as irony and satire which appear on nearly in every page of the story through the dialect of the characters, yet the pleasure

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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of reading *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* has kept readers coming back to the novel for over a century (Colcher, 2017).

Tom Sawyer is the main character of the book. He lives with his Aunt Polly. Tom is an imaginative young boy who always seems to be getting into trouble. Tom is very adventurous. He never passes up a chance to play pirates, robbers, or soldiers. At the beginning of the story Tom is introduced by climbing in his window after a long night of messing around with his friends. Soon after the start of the story, Tom meets Huckleberry Fin. Huck is Tom's best friend. One night the two boys go to the grave yard for a little excitement. While they are there they witness a murder; yet, the boys make an oath to never speak of this again. Yet, he falls in love with his new neighbor, Becky Thatcher (Gribben, 1985).

Twain's literary career is truly fascinating in its strangeness. He is one of America greatest writers; he tried hard to play with the psychological side of the reader, when the competent writer used real facts from his own life like the Mississippi River, and some adventures from the writer's own experience make the audience as a real character in the story.

### **2.5 Tom Sawyer as main character**

The adventure of Tom Sawyer is a great story because the author has created characters that are true to life. In this story, the author creates the situation that Tom Sawyer as the main character feels gloomy, desperate and exiled by his civilization. Nobody loves him. Tom wants to go away from his lack of sympathy and sadness by running away from home, looking for freedom he needs. Then Tom decides to escape from home to become a pirate. Meanwhile, there is a boy who has the same problem as him, named Joe Harper. Together they meet Huckleberry Finn and join him promptly. They discuss their plans, and start a trip to the island as the pirates (Sutrina, 1951).

#### **2.5.1. Huckleberry Finn the Shiny Character for Samuel Clemens**

Huckleberry Finn is the second main character in the novel. He becomes one of the most identifiable characters in American literature. He appears in two well-known and so interesting novels, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Huckleberry Finn is Tom's best friend. Also, he was hated by all mothers in the town, because of his behavior. Huck's life is free without any rules, and wears oversized clothes. His life attracted all children in the city of St. Petersburg, especially Tom, because he can do whatever he wants.

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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Yet, one of the most obvious differences between Huck and Tom is their responses to danger. Tom is more likely to seek it out and think of an ingenious way to deal with it, whereas Huck's first instinct is generally to run away. He cannot be blamed for this, as it has probably allowed him to survive in his vagrant life (Hurt, 2010).

### **2.5.2 Aunt Polly and her relationship with Tom**

As a fictional character, [Tom Sawyer](#)'s aunt and guardian in [Mark twain](#)'s *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876), Aunt Polly is a kindhearted, rather simple old woman who takes her responsibility for Tom and his half-brother Sid very seriously. Tom always makes troubles to his aunt. She often wishes Tom would behave properly like his brother, Sid (Jobin,2012). Polly represents, in fact, the family power, unity, and cultural as well as traditional way of life.

### **2.5.3 Sid Sawyer**

He is the youngest half-brother to Tom. He is more serious than Tom, he is not naughty and adventurer like his,so tom saw him as boring boy. He usually keeps a close eye on his wrong doings. He is naughty boy but not like Tom; his aunt always saw him as the best well dressed and punctual boy not like Tom.

### **2.5.4 Injun Joe**

He is the antagonist in the novel; he is drunk, guilty, and the villain in the novel. He is half white and half Native American. Injun Joe's name, which is an abbreviated slang pronunciation of "Indian Joe," shows that his identity is so closely tied to his being a Native American that the towns people and the narrator cannot think of him except in terms of his being an Indian (Twain,1876). He killed Dr. Robinson.

The characters relationship in the story, starting by the protagonist Tom, was closely related to each other. Readers feeling toward the novel are like one of the important characters, because of narrating techniques used by the author. Aunt Polly's role is take care of Tom, it's like mother's role. Huckleberry Finn, is tom's best friend, who share with him secrets and adventures.

## **2.6 Twain's style in the Novel**

Over the past decades, there have been many different kinds of novels which come out. In addition, these new kinds of novels attract a lot of readers, children and adults until nowadays. The novel follows the development of Tom from childhood through adolescence and into adulthood. It also resembles

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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novels of the picaresque genre<sup>7</sup>, in that Tom moves from one adventures to another. The adventures of Tom Sawyer fit the style of satire, folk narrative, and comedy (Heims, 2006).

Mark Twain's aware of his keen satire, present in several of his novels. While satire is his most commonly known literary element, twain has a distinctive style that is evident throughout his works. Twain's careful choice of adapting such realities makes him realistic work.

In both *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Twain's writing style is, so attractive and difficult because of his full of slang that it is difficult to understand. However, upon closer inspection, it becomes clear that Twain's diction is carefully calculated to give the reader the sense of a carefree narrative. Twain is famous for his criticisms of American society, both in his stories and in his own world. He effectively communicates his views in a manner that is not overbearingly obvious through the eyes of his characters and the lessons that they learn throughout the novels (Gerhard, 2009; Gribben, 2011).

### **2.7 Tom Sawyer as a Juvenile Literary Novel**

The Novel is part of prose fiction, which has the beautiful values and gives some fun for everyone who reads. This reason makes this novel different from other literary works. Children's literature or juvenile literature includes short stories, magazines, and poems (songs) that are enjoyed by children. However, adventure and celebration of childhood for some American writers were the last themes to be dealt with for they were most of the time busy thinking in terms of bad situation the Americans were living. To give an importance to children is to deal with their situation. The writers had started writing juvenile fiction by the 1820s when society has started changing for the best. Modern children's literature is classified into two different ways: genre or the intended age of the reader (Gavin, Routledge, 2018). "Whatever media they have been educated by, textbooks, papers-backs, movies or TV, all Americans are acquainted with a youthful character named Tom Sawyer, created by Mark Twain" (Mcaigne, 1983, p319). It is remarkable that the concept of moral lessons as being the sole motive of juvenile literature has been rejected by some writers among whom Mark Twain became one of the first American authors to write about misbehaving children who were not corrected but even rewarded.

### **2.8. Penrod and Tom Sawyer in American Literature**

Bernard (1983) in his famous work from Tom Sawyer to *Penrod* took the two famous and influential characters. *Penrod* is a collection of comic sketches by Booth Tarkington published in a similar vein to *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. He chooses those two characters as boundaries for the child of American literature from 1870 to 1910. Readers during that period were attracted by those two

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<sup>7</sup> Picaresque genre is a genre of prose fiction that depicts the adventures of a roguish, but "appealing hero", of low social class, who lives by his or her wits in a corrupt society.

## **Chapter Two: Mark Twain's The adventures of Tom Sawyer and the Influence of his Social Life**

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heroes; yet, Tarkington and Twain show that there is no separation between mass produced or mass oriented writings. Several writers who wrote about the children literature agree that Juvenile Literature flourished during the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, into the realistic, then the Naturalistic movement in literature. time(Blair,1939)

### **2.9 The adventures of Huckleberry Finn as Direct Sequel to The Adventures of Tom Sawyer**

Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer are Mark Twain's two most memorable characters. They experience a life of adventure in and out of role-play, weaving through danger with a childish disregard for personal well-being. Even though they are quite alike due to age and hometown, their differences outweigh their similarities. Yet, Tom and Huck's Mississippi River becomes an endlessly renewable metaphor. Twain's varied works entail novels, travels, narratives, short stories, sketches, and essays. His writings about the Mississippi River, such as *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Life on the Mississippi*, and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, have been particularly popular among modern readers. In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the theme of individual identity, especially contrasted against mob mentality and assimilation, is present in almost every chapter of the novel. Throughout the novel, the characters within the story, especially Huck as the protagonist, make decisions regarding which type of mentality they will use, which then affects their relations with other characters, such as Tom Sawyer. In the book, Twain uses both Huck's idealization of Tom and Tom, the physical being, as secondary characters to help the reader understand how Huck falls into both of these mentalities and how his identity as individual changes throughout the novel. Furthermore, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, which is investigated throughout this research work, is considered Twain's greatest work; it was highly respected by famous authors like Ernest Hemingway, who declares that "All modern American literature comes from Huckleberry Finn"(Ulin,214). Also states that "Many see the *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as the greatest novel of American democracy. It shows the basic goodness and wisdom of ordinary people".

### **Conclusion**

The second chapter was an overview of Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and its main characters. It was believed that the novel added a lot to the American Literature during the realistic movement and to the modern works. The great success of the author which is touched till nowadays continues with other famous novels like *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* when he used the same main character in two novels. It highlights the realistic movement that influenced the author, and appears in his work.

# **Chapter Three**

**Language, Thought and Culture in  
*'The Adventures of Tom sawyer'*: A  
Literary Analysis**

## **Chapter three: Language, Thought and Culture in ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’: A Literary Analysis**

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### **Introduction**

This chapter explains the great analytical techniques that are used by the author Mark Twain in his novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, which make it one of the most popular novels nowadays. The novel is famous for having elements of humor, satire and social criticism; features that later have made Mark Twain one of the most important authors of American literature. A literary analysis of the novel will provide a clear image about how Mark Twain describes some autobiographical events, such as Twain's actual boyhood home of Hannibal, near St. Louis, the main aspects that could shape his society including racism, religion and morality, will identify how could Language, thought and culture appear clearly in the Twain's way of telling the story, especially when he used his own dialect.

### **3.1 The American Cultural Life in Tom Sawyer's Story**

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* was published in 1876, the year the United States celebrated the centennial of its nationhood. However, the time period and the location of the story could help the readers understand the theme of human goodness and wickedness. However, Writers at that used such techniques during the realistic movement which allow readers see life from different aspects. The title character has the status of a national icon which pictured on bicentennial stamps, recalled in Disneyland at Tom Sawyer's Island, the repeated subject of films, musicals and other representations. Tom Sawyer is the link between the past and present of Twain's life and America, however, the ambiguities and contradiction that marked in the novel reveal cultural tension on time setting of the book and its writing (Messent, 1997). The book was set in the ante-bellum period, when American society passed with massive social change. Marcia Jacobson has an overview about the vicarious escape produced by culture that offered by Twain in his novel. Though modernization increased remarkably in speed in post-bellum era, it was a series of developments within no sudden transformation (Messent, 1997).

Mark Twain is always marked at the level of his language used in his writings. It is mainly clear that reader know him personally when they start reading his books or critics who write about him. Yet, the narrative techniques adopted by Clemens raise number of questions; he created a character distinct from himself and his usual persona. The novel was about the morality and psychology growth of the main character within the story. The novel follows the development of a hero from his childhood till his adolescence and into adulthood as a naughty

### **Chapter three: Language, Thought and Culture in ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’: A Literary Analysis**

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adventurer boy, which seems he was talking about his adventures where he was born. The novel also resembles to the picaresque genre; in that, Tom moves from one adventurous episode to another. It also fits the genres of satire, frontier literature, folk narration, and comedy. Finally, once again, through this novel Mark Twain gives us satires and exposes the hypocrisy and often the essential childishness of social institutions such as school, church and the law, as well as public opinion (Bird,2007).

#### **3.2 The Role of Authority in Tom Sawyer's Maturation**

The authority is the important factor on Tom's maturation. Samuel wrote his novel mainly for entertaining boys and girls, but it also addresses adults. In the broadest sense authority represent adults' world with all its rules. The conventions and institutions have been so harshly and ironically criticized by Clemens in his novel; yet, every child has to find this "unique own" in adolescence to improve himself . Authority is the every form of influence of the adults on Tom's actions. When we start reading the novel, the character of Tom Sawyer, and the force to defy authority is extraordinary strong. The first line in the book is a shout "TOM!" and of course the shout is not. The leniency of authority, as well as its absence in determining situations is responsible for Tom's maturation. Hence, the whole process of becoming an adult can only be completed by the acceptance of the authority of society (Kruger,2009).

#### **3.3 The Aspects of Social Class and Proper Behavior in Society**

Mark Twain's novel tells the fictional story of young boys in a real society that existed. Twain uses irony and satire to criticize aspects of society. Sawyer's life is bounded by the rules of proper behavior in society. He is expected to behave good and respect laws by going to school, church or reading Bible. Instead of behaving properly, however, Tom break the rules and became a naughty boy. Tom and his friend Huck Finn become heroes at the end of the book, not because they were abiding by the codes of proper behavior, but they went against it. The novel, thus, is a historical fiction novel that took place in real society; he criticized social class by using satire and irony In order to understand the novel clearly and the society that influenced the author, it's useful to have background information about the period of writing and the author's childhood. The writer was one of the first writers who write about misbehaving children (Langenhoff,2003).

## **Chapter three: Language, Thought and Culture in ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’: A Literary Analysis**

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### **3.4 Racism and Religion in the View of the Author**

Samuel Clemens was a social critic as well as a novelist; he observed his society living in as a racial hypocrisy even after the abolition of slavery. Racism appeared more in his second novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, when he represented the official system about freedom and equality, but in reality was the opposite.

On the other hand, Religion is an important part of the society. Tom lives in a town where Religion is a tiresome and boring obligation. Aunt Polly, Sid and Mary are all more religious than Tom is. When Tom goes to bed without saying his prayers, it is a powerful act of defiance. Yet, the writer himself was not a fan of church, in his quote he said “The church is always trying to get other people to reform; it might not be a bad idea to reform itself a little, by way of example” .So, the background of the author has an influence on his way of thinking because the church in Clemens’s society is so important but in his point of view is just an obligation (Kallin, 2007).

### **3.5 Superstition by the View of Mark Twain in Tom Sawyer**

Some characters in Mark Twain’s novel such as Huckleberry Finn, Tom Sawyer, and Aunt Polly live in worlds they do not understand and are powerless to control. These characters often used superstitions and other creative logic to try to explain the unexplainable occurrences in their lives. This is the best way for them that help them to live in St. Petersburg, where beliefs in outer forces influence and determine the life of its dwellers (Kpohoue,2018).

### **3.6 Morality and immorality of human society in Twain’s Novel**

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer incorporates several different genres. It resembles a bildungsroman or a novel about the moral and psychological growth. Morality is a social phenomenon, because we are living within a group of people and contacting each other under strict rules, as Pecorino (2006) asserts, that we should respect. People would form their own moral from the examples of those respected and admired. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* addressed and is influenced by children more than adults; so, the writer cares a lot about morality in his novel. American kids saw Tom Sawyer as an example to follow; they even became interested to visit the Mississippi River. However, the protagonist tries not to waste time and learns each day in his life; so, he has great desire to be independent and free, and discover the value of life.

## **Chapter three: Language, Thought and Culture in ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’: A Literary Analysis**

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In addition, Mark Twain represents a lot of examples of morality and immorality that has an important role on human society. The novel is written in the genre of detective fiction which captures the readers’ attention from the first chapters which make him famous from the first publication. It can be felt through reading the story that Tom Sawyer has effect on Huck’s moral development, and that Tom can easily influence Huck’s decisions, because Tom represents an educated person in society. The novel of Twain has been considered to be the greatest literary work as it develops the themes of morality and immorality by the character which help to value the best traits of human personality, such as honesty, kindness, self-confidence and strength of will. The main character of the novel ‘Tom Sawyer’ is represented as a leader who makes serious decisions, struggles for his freedom, and adheres to moral principles (Lester, Johnson, 1984) .

### **3.7 Important Techniques used in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer**

Throughout the decades, the work of Mark Twain has acquired fame and popularity through its ability to entertain the audience around the world. Twain’s most popular works, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and the sequel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, never fail to live up to their reputation. He uses a certain style of writing in order to achieve his desired mood. It is a short and concise novel, filled with imaginative language, events, descriptions, and a wonderfully dry sense of satirical humor. The author uses a certain style of writing in order to achieve his desired mood adopted various literary styles and have advocated extensive literary beliefs and movements, striving to satisfy the desire of the reader to become better in effectively expressing ideas through writing.

Yet, Mark Twain’s style of writing expands the general idea through figurative languages, imagery, diction, and tone. Twain used figurative language and imagery to show the atmosphere, or the surrounding of a character to give the readers an idea of the characters’ feelings and emotions. One example is when he used figurative languages such as *terrific storm*, *awful claps of thunder*, *blinding sheets of lightning*, *suspense for his doom*, *shadow of a doubt*, *expensive thunderstorm* . These words are intended to give the reader the intensity of Tom’s feeling during that part of the story, as argues, wherein he felt alone, wicked and conscience-smitten for he is the only child in the village who did not go to the spiritual revival. When someone reads the story, he/she clearly understands that Twain consistently uses the literary element of satire which mainly appears nearly in every page of the story through the dialect of

### **Chapter three: Language, Thought and Culture in ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’: A Literary Analysis**

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the characters, such as when Huckleberry says such things as "Taint thunder... they done that last summer!" At the same time, Tom responds with "somebody's drowned!" This dialect shows the characters lack of education and sophistication (Bantam, 1981).

Thus, Twain used various forms of satire to portray and criticize society in a humorous way. One of the techniques that considered his novel one of the greatest works of American Literature. However, satire appears mainly in all pages of the novel which is the use of irony, exaggeration, criticize people's stupidity. Examples from the novel are using exaggeration when he decided to run away and live as pirate, when Becky turned him down:

‘He was gloomy desperate.... there was no choice’ (chp13, p. 98)

Yet, irony is used to mean the opposite of what they intend. This is clearly seen when they want to be pirates, the boys feel guilty after stealing bacon, and they know that there was a command against it in the Bible .

### **3.8 Revealing Tom Sawyer's Personality in the Novel**

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is viewed as a tale of maturing, whose principal subject is the moral, psychological and intellectual growth of the main character. Then two Toms cannot be seen, but only one Tom who, through his experiences, matures as a young . Most readers then, choose to see Tom as a dynamic character who occasionally reverts to childish pranks, but one who essentially moves from early childish endeavors to maturity, to the point where he can make highly moral decisions and commitments, as he did in revealing Injun Joe's guilt and in protecting Becky while being lost in the cave.

Twain's work was inspired by the unconventional West, and the popularity of his work marked the end of the domination of American literature by New England writers. His sticking to the American themes, settings, and language, inspired some American writers such as Ernest Hemingway and William Faulkner . Talking about the future, Tom Sawyer, the protagonist, has many different dreams. He often changes his wishes of different professions suddenly; but, his only lovely dream is to be a pirate. He saw himself to be the greatest and most awful pirate ever. Finally, he decides to run away from home and to become a pirate. The three naughty boys, Tom and Huck and found a group of pirates and run away to Jackson Island to have a better life there. An important reason for Tom is the freedom they have there; where nobody

### **Chapter three: Language, Thought and Culture in ‘The Adventures of Tom Sawyer’: A Literary Analysis**

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controls his way of behaving. One day a desire comes upon Tom, like in every boy’s life, to go somewhere and dig for a buried treasure; that is a typical feeling, considering the time and place of Tom’s life. Furthermore, his drive for adventures and discoveries involves him in difficult situations. From the point of view of the “normal” boy Tom, Huck is the ideal person to be identified with his own dreams and aims . To sum up, Huckleberry Finn personifies Tom’s personal American dream. So, the American dream concept appears mainly in the idea of freedom (Schmidt, 2002).

According to Beacham's(1990), *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* contains a literary quality as an adventure story. He asserts that:

The novel contains many qualities of the adventure story: villains menace the innocent, hide treasures in caves, and inhabit haunted houses; heroes rescue helpless victims, discover buried treasure, and gain recognition from the women they love and from their community.  
(p. 1388).

The adventure story qualities that are contained in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* make the novel suitable for young adolescent readers.

### **Conclusion**

This study aims at clarifying the techniques used by the author in his piece of work that make it more attractive and amongst the greatest works from the nineteenth century until now days. This chapter attempts to describe such literary techniques and themes used in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, however, themes used at that time were changed radically because of the economic and social issues during these period. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* is great example to study the realistic movement and literary techniques .

## General Conclusion

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### General Conclusion

This work attempted to study the influence of the three important aspects in humans' life language, thought and culture on the writers' literary works. It is an investigation into the interconnection between the three elements, and the way they can be reflected and mirrored in literature. This study examines the real influence of social life on the author's piece of writing. To this end, Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* has been selected to be the focus of the study. It represents an illustration of modern American literature that APEAR JUST AFTER THE Realism movement, and emphasize mainly on the social aspect of American people at that time. In the other hand language is an important element in the Realism movement. The main aim of the research is to understand how the social life of the author can appear clearly in hid way of writing.

The present work regards this fundamental question: how does Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* encompass all the aspects of language, thought, and culture in his novel, it appear clearly in the authors way of writing.

Based on the review of literature and the analysis of novel important conclusions were considered. It has been found that all of language, thought and culture are interrelated units that one cannot be separated from the other.

Language has been classified as the most complicated aspect to be defined, because it is more than such a tool of communication. In effect, language influences our culture, thought and even literature. The difficulty of language lies in the fact that each language in the world is different from the other one in both lingual and cultural grounds; yet, its main use remains in exchanging ideas and communicating with each other. Edward Sapir with his friend B. Lee Whorf adopted the idea that thought could shape the language, and clarified how language could affect thought, in return.

Tom Sawyer as great work he used such techniques, which led his work famous until this century .

Also, the study resulted in the fact that the influence of author's life in his way of writing is inevitable. This appears in the analysis of Mark Twain's novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* which was classified as fantastical adventurous

## **General Conclusion**

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workrepresenting the realistic movement. The literary works by Mark Twain hadattracted the readers' attention because of the author's unique literary writing style that uses satire and his own dialect as specific techniques to inspire readers. In his novel, he criticized his society and was consideredas the first American who introduced new social views into American literature.As such, the wrier was influenced by his society and the way they used to live and believe; this appears in his story and the dialect used.

Moreover, findings showed that Mark Twain utilized some literary techniques in his novel such as Satire, exaggeration and the main issue in his novel is the use of dialect. The novel has been considered as one of the greatest literary works as it develops the themes of morality, immorality and freedom. Thus, Twain influences the American literature and brought new ways of narration and attractive techniques.

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# THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER

Mark Twain



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