



The Grammar Dog Guide to Allusions and Symbols in Twain

**All quizzes use sentences from six novels.
Includes 135 multiple choice questions.**

About Gramwardog

Gramwardog was founded in 2001 by Mary Jane McKinney, a high school English teacher and dedicated grammarian. She and other experienced English teachers in both high school and college regard grammar and style as the key to unlocking the essence of an author.

Their philosophy, that grammar and literature are best understood when learned together, led to the formation of Gramwardog.com, a means of sharing knowledge about the structure and patterns of language unique to specific authors. These patterns are what make a great book *a great book*. The arduous task of analyzing works for grammar and style has yielded a unique product, guaranteed to enlighten the reader of literary classics.

Gramwardog's strategy is to put the author's words under the microscope. The result yields an increased appreciation of the art of writing and awareness of the importance and power of language.



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ISBN 978-1-60857-213-7

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ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS in Mark Twain

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SAMPLE EXERCISES - ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS in Mark Twain

A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT

EXERCISE 1 STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS

Identify the allusions in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

a. historical b. religion c. literary d. games e. folklore/superstition

- ___ 1. One thing at a time, is my motto – and just play that thing for all it is worth, even if it's only two pair and a jack.

- ___ 2. We should have had talk from Rachel and Ivanhoe and the soft Lady Rowena which would embarrass a tramp in our day.

- ___ 3. It came into my mind, in the nick of time how Columbus, or Cortez, or one of those people, played an eclipse as a saving trump once, on some savages, and I saw my chance.

- ___ 4. I saw that I was just another Robinson Crusoe cast away on an uninhabited island, with no society but some more or less tame animals, and if I wanted to make life bearable I must do as he did – invent, contrive, create; reorganize things; set brain and hand to work . . .

THE INNOCENTS ABROAD

EXERCISE 3 STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS

Identify the type of allusion in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

a. historical b. mythological c. religion d. literary e. folklore/superstition

- ___ 1. Oxen tread the wheat from the ear, after the fashion prevalent in the time of Methuselah.

- ___ 2. Here is a wall that was old when Columbus discovered America.

- ___ 3. Here is a crumbling wall that was old . . . when Charlemagne and his paladins beleaguered enchanted castles and battled giants and genii in the olden time.

- ___ 4. Yonder is a ruined arch of a bridge build by Julius Caesar nineteen hundred years ago.

THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER

EXERCISE 5 STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS

Identify the type of allusion in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

a. historical b. London sites c. religion d. folklore/superstition

- ___ 1. On the same day another English child was born to a rich family of the name of Tudor, who did want him.

- ___ 2. There was no talk in all England but of the new baby, Edward Tudor, Prince of Wales, who lay lapped in silks and satins, unconscious of all this fuss . . .

- ___ 3. . . . so he put in a good deal of his time listening to good Father Andrew's charming old tales and legends about giants and fairies, dwarfs, and genii, and enchanted castles, and gorgeous kings and princes.

- ___ 4. By and by he found himself at Temple Bar, the farthest from home he had ever traveled in that direction.

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