

哈佛 蓝星双语名著导读 (精选版)

Today's Most Popular Study Guides

哈克贝利·芬历险记

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

〔美〕 Mark Twain 原著

Melissa Martin 导读

Stephanie Pumphrey 翻译
阎玉敏

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出 版 人:蔡 颢

地 址:天津市南开区白堤路 244 号

邮政编码:300192

电 话:022-87894896

传 真:022-87895650

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致读者

亲爱的读者,在这个多元文化的世界里,渴望知识,钟情文学,热爱英语的你是否想过站在巨人的肩膀上摘星呢?

你手上这本蓝色小册子正是风行全美的哈佛蓝星笔记,是哈佛学生们将名著阅读与文学学习融会贯通,编写而成的名著导读本。它们以经典性和流行性并存的名著为素材,以明晰的风格和地道的语言而著称。每一本都包括著作的创作背景,人物分析,主题解析,篇章讲解,重要引文释义,作品档案,并且附有相关的思考题,推荐的论文题,阅读后的小测验,要点注释,以及推荐阅读篇目。

这样的编排使你不仅仅停留在对名著内容上的了解,更可迅速、全面、深入地掌握著作的全部资料,同时也满足了对文化做进一步了解和研究的需求。蓝星精辟、明晰的编写风格将“半天阅读一本名著”的想法变为现实,帮你在有限的闲暇内阅读更多的书,在地道的语言中迅速提高英语水平,丰富文学内涵,增加谈资。

天津科技翻译出版公司近年来陆续引进出版了 50 本蓝星笔记,由我国外语界资深专家翻译、审校,本次又从中精挑细选了 10 本蓝星笔记,精心制作成为“哈佛蓝星双语名著导读(精选版)”,既保留了原书特点,并对文中的知识要点做了注释,更加适合你的需要。

蓝星闪耀,照你前行!

CONTEXT

Samuel Langhorne Clemens, who wrote under the pen name Mark Twain, was born in Florida, Missouri, in 1835. At the age of four he moved with his family to Hannibal, a town on the Mississippi River much like the towns in his two most famous novels, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

The young Clemens began his life in a fairly affluent family that owned a number of household slaves. When Clemens was twelve his father died, and he left school. He worked as a printer, and in 1851, having finished his apprenticeship, Clemens began to set type for his brother Orion's newspaper, the Hannibal Journal. Hannibal proved too small to hold Clemens, though; the young man soon became a sort of itinerant printer, finding work in numerous American cities, including New York and Philadelphia. While still in his early twenties, Clemens gave up his printing career in order to work on the Mississippi riverboats, and eventually became a riverboat pilot. Clemens picked up a great deal from his life on the river, most particularly the pen name Mark Twain, which

来龙·去脉

1835年，塞缪尔·朗荷斯·克莱门斯出生于密苏里州的佛罗里达，他后来写作时用的笔名就是马克·吐温。马克·吐温4岁时随家迁至密西西比河上的哈内拜尔镇，这个小镇与他的两部最著名的小说《汤姆·索亚历险记》和《哈克贝利·芬历险记》里描写的场景十分相似。

幼年时的克莱门斯家境比较富裕，拥有一些家奴。克莱门斯12岁时父亲去世，他随之辍学做了印刷作坊的学徒。1851年，克莱门斯学徒期满，开始为哥哥奥利昂的报纸《哈内拜尔日报》排版。哈内拜尔太小了，留不住克莱门斯，于是他很快就做了一名巡回印刷师，在美国的许多城市（包括纽约和费城）里工作。20岁刚出头时，克莱门斯就为了能在密西西比河上工作而放弃了印刷这个行当，最后当上了一名河船领航员。克莱门斯从他在密西西比河上的生活中汲取了丰富的营养，尤其是笔名马克·吐温，马克·吐温是蒸汽船上用来表示河水深两英寻的号子。河上的生活经历给马克·吐温的几本书



THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKELBERRY FINN

was a cry used on steamboats to indicate a river depth of two fathoms. Life on the river also gave Twain material for several of his books, including the raft scenes of *Huck Finn* and all of the material for his autobiographical *Life on the Mississippi*.

In 1861, the Civil War* exploded across America, shutting down the Mississippi for travel or shipping. Twain joined a Confederate* cavalry division. Clemens, however, was no ardent Confederate, and when his division deserted en masse, he did too, and made his way west with his brother, working first as a silver miner in Nevada and then stumbling into his true calling, journalism. In 1863 he began signing articles with the name Mark Twain. Throughout the late 1860s and 1870s, Twain's articles, stories, memoirs, and novels, characterized by an immense and witty humor and a deft ear for language and dialect, garnered him an almost inconceivable celebrity. In 1876, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* was published to wild national acclaim, cementing Twain's position as a behemoth in American literary circles. As the nation prospered economically in the post—Civil War period—an era that came to be known as the Gilded Age*, an epithet that Twain coined—so too did Twain. His books were sold door-to-door and he became



提供了丰富的素材,其中包括《哈克贝利·芬历险记》中木筏漂流的景色和他的自传体小说《密西西比河上的日子》中的全部素材。

1861年,美国爆发内战,密西西比河上的客运和货运被迫关闭。吐温参加了南部邦联的骑兵师。马克·吐温不是南部邦联的热衷支持者,因此当他所在的部队集体潜逃时,他也开了小差,和哥哥一起向西部寻求发展。克莱门斯先在内华达州的银矿上当了一段矿工,然后开始涉足他所钟爱的事业——新闻。1863年,他开始用马克·吐温这个笔名给自己的文章署名。从19世纪60年代后期到70年代,马克·吐温的文章、故事、回忆录和小说以丰富而机智的幽默、精练的语言和方言为特色受到了空前的欢迎。1876年,《汤姆·索亚历险记》的出版受到了举国的狂热推崇,稳固了马克·吐温在美国文学界的文学泰斗地位。随着美国经济在战后时期的繁荣——这个时期被称之为镀金时代——马克·吐温的生活也富裕起来。他的书卖到了千家万户,给自己和1870年娶的妻子奥利维亚赚了足够的钱,在康州的



THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKELBERRY FINN

wealthy enough to build a large house in Hartford, Connecticut, for himself and his wife Olivia, whom he had married in 1870.

Twain began work on *Huck Finn*, a sequel to *Tom Sawyer*, in an effort to capitalize on the popularity of the earlier book. This new novel took on a much more serious character, however, as Twain focused increasingly on the institution of slavery and the South. Twain soon set the work aside, perhaps because its darker tone did not fit the optimistic tone of the time. In the early 1880s, the hopefulness of the post—Civil War years began to fade. Reconstruction, the political program designed to reintegrate the defeated South into the Union as non-slave states, began to fail. The South became embittered by the harsh measures imposed by the victorious North. Concerned about maintaining power in their own regions, Southern states and individuals began an effort to control and oppress the black men and women that the war had freed.

Meanwhile, Clemens's personal life began to collapse. His wife had long been sickly, and the couple lost their first son after just nineteen months. Clemens also made some bad financial decisions. What began in 1880 as a modest investment in a typesetting system spiraled out of control, and in 1891 Clemens found himself mired



哈特富特造了一所大房子。

《汤姆·索亚历险记》受到普遍欢迎，马克·吐温想要扩大该书的影响力，于是开始写其姊妹篇《哈克贝利·芬历险记》。但马克·吐温开始日益注重描写奴隶制与南方，使这部新小说具有更加严肃的特点。马克·吐温很快把这部小说的写作放到一边，或许因为它比较黑暗的基调与整个时代乐观向上的精神不大吻合。到了19世纪80年代早期，人们在内战后那段时期的希望和憧憬开始减退。重建，这个旨在将战败的南方作为无奴州重新并入北方的政治计划，也开始出现失败的迹象。南方因为北方取胜后推行的严厉措施饱受煎熬。为在自己区域内保存势力，南方各州政府和居民开始管制和压迫因战争解放了的黑人。

在此期间，克莱门斯的个人生活也开始走下坡路。妻子久病缠身；长子19个月时就离开了人世；克莱门斯的财务政策也出现了失误，始于1880年的对排版系统的一项有节制的投资项目逐渐失控，到1891年克莱门斯已经债务累累。由于个人财富的减少，他继续投身写



in debilitating debt. As his personal fortune dwindled, he continued to devote himself to writing. Drawing from his personal plight and the prevalent national troubles of the day, he finished a draft of *Huck Finn* in 1883, and by 1884 had it ready for publication. Once again, the book met with great public and critical acclaim.

Over the next ten years, Clemens continued to write. He published two more popular novels, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889) and *Pudd'nhead Wilson* (1894), but afterward went into a considerable decline. He never again published work up to the standards of *Huck Finn* or even *Pudd'nhead*. Personal tragedy also continued to hound him. His finances remained troublesome, and, more cruelly, within the course of a few years his wife and two of his daughters passed away. Clemens's writing from this period until the end of his life reflects a depression and a sort of righteous rage at the injustices of the world. Though he felt himself increasingly alienated from society, Twain, was enjoying his greatest literary reputation, and continued to be in demand as a public speaker until his death in 1910.

The story of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, however, does not end with the death of its author. Through the twentieth century, *Huck Finn* has become



作。他取材于个人困境和当时举国笼罩的问题,于 1883 年完成了《哈克贝利·芬历险记》的初稿,并于 1884 年脱稿付梓,该书又一次受到广大读者与评论界的热烈称赞。

在这以后的 10 年中,克莱门斯笔耕不辍,又出版了两部大受欢迎的小说,《亚瑟王法庭上的康州佬》(1889)和《傻子威尔逊》(1894),之后却一落千丈。他再也没能写出与《哈克贝利·芬历险记》甚至《傻子威尔逊》齐名的作品。个人悲剧接踵而来,他的财务方面问题重重,更加残酷的是,他的妻子和两个女儿在几年中相继去世。从这一时期到他去世,克莱门斯的作品反映出一种消沉和对社会不公的义愤之情。虽然马克·吐温感觉到自己和社会逐渐疏远,他却一直享有最高的文学盛名,直到 1910 年去世之前,还不断受到邀请做公共演讲。

然而,《哈克贝利·芬历险记》中的故事是不会随着作者的辞世结束其生命力的。在整个 20 世纪,这本书广



famous not just as the crown jewel in the work of one of America's preeminent writers, but also as a subject of intense controversy. The book has been banned by sensitive Southerners because of its steadfastly critical take on the South and the hypocrisies of slavery; it has been banned by those who have dismissed it as vulgar or racist because it uses the word "nigger", a term whose connotations obscure the book's deeper themes (which are certainly antislavery) and even prevent some from reading and enjoying it altogether. That the historical context in which Clemens wrote made his use of the word insignificant and, indeed, part of the realism he wanted to create, offers little solace to many modern readers. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, then, emerges not just as a novel that explores the racial and moral world of its time, but also, through the controversies that continue to surround it, as an artifact of those same moral and racial tensions as they have evolved into the present day. 🌿