



A Quote From Mark Twain

Focus/Overview

Interpreting a quote. This quote can be interpreted in many ways. The students can justify their responses to what is happening today in Louisiana.

Learning Objective(s)

The learner will:

- interpret a quote from Mark Twain
- identify pros and cons of human technological activities upon Louisiana

Louisiana Grade Level Expectations

7-GLE-H-44	Explain the point of view of key historical figures in U.S. history (H-1A-M1)
7-GLE-H-66	Identify major technological developments related to land, water, and transportation and explain how they transformed the economy, created international markets, and affected the environment (H-1B-M10)
7-GLE-SE-39	Analyze the consequences of human activities on ecosystems (SE-M-A4)
7-GLE-SE-43	Identify & analyze the environmental impact of humans' use of technology (SE-M-A8)
7-GLE-ELA-3	Interpret literary devices (ELA-1-M2)

Materials List

- copy of quote
- Give notes on Restoration efforts and waterway areas of coastal Louisiana

Background Information

Mark Twain, aka Samuel Clemens, is a famous author who actually experienced first hand how powerful the Mississippi River is. He had to maneuver a large steamboat up and down, twisting and turning his way through the sometimes-turbulent waters of the River. His stories are based on many of his adventures. His quote brings home the plaguing issues facing the Louisiana coast.

Advance Preparation

- PowerPoint slide or transparency showing the quote by Mark Twain

BTNEP Connection

Hydrological Modification

Grade Level

7

Duration

20minutes

Subject Area

History, Science, Language Arts,

Extension Areas

Use a book of quotes from the library; see if your students can find any more quotes that can be applied to a situation in Louisiana.

Vocabulary

- Interpretation
- Hydrological modifications

Original Source (if applicable)

Cally Chauvin
Mark Twain quote

- Notes on Restoration efforts and waterway areas of coastal Louisiana

Procedure

1. Display the quote
2. Have the students write what they think Mark Twain is saying in the quote
3. Have them show how this quote applies to Louisiana
4. Go over the section on Restoration
5. Have students explain how technological developments have changed the land and water areas of Louisiana (Pros and Cons)
6. Have the students research how all of these changes due to human activities have had negative impacts on the ecosystems of Louisiana
7. Have them write a poem on one or more of the issues that they learned about

Blackline Master(s)

1. See quote
2. See Pros and Cons Sheet

Assessment

Language Arts & History:

The learner will create a poem on the issues facing Louisiana.

Tradebooks:

Huck Finn

Survival! Flood by K. Duey and K.A. Bale

References:

Twain, Mark. Life on the Mississippi.





"One who knows the Mississippi will promptly aver...that ten thousand River Commissions, with the mind of the world at their back, cannot tame the lawless stream, cannot curb it or confine it, cannot say to it Go here or Go there, and make it obey; cannot save a shore that it has sentenced."

Mark Twain
Life on the Mississippi

