

For the Teacher:

Mark Twain, Nicaraguan Visitor Listening Task

Functional Language <i>Students will need</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>If you travel to _____, you will see _____.</i>• <i>_____ has a good sense of humor.</i>
Vocabulary <i>Students will need</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• vocabulary: <i>statue, poet, famous, bench, writer, name, grew, grew up, big, small, sick, family, born, humor, sense of humor, watch, river boats, adventurous, childhood, memory, story, read, meet, baby.</i>
Grammar <i>Students will need</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• yes/no questions in past tense: Did + subject + verb in present tense = Did Mark Twain meet...?• regular past tense verbs vs. irregular past tense verbs: <i>liked, used, traveled, visited, was, grew, sat</i>
Assessment <i>Teachers can check for success by</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ask students, “Who was Mark Twain?” and “Who was Ruben Darío?” and “Which country was

	<p>Mark Twain's home?" and "Why is there a statue of Mark Twain in Nicaragua?"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have students re-tell each other about Mark Twain and Ruben Darío using as much information as they can remember from the audio. • Give statements to the class (some are true and some are false) about Mark Twain and Ruben Darío from the audio. Let students create their answers in groups.
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Biographies | Mark Twain, Nicaraguan Visitor

Who was Mark Twain?

If you travel to San Juan del Sur, you will see a statue. The statue is of two men sitting on a bench together. Who are they? One of them is

Ruben Darío, the most famous poet of Nicaragua. The other is Mark Twain, one of the most famous writers of the United States.

Mark Twain was born with another name—Samuel Clemens. He grew up in a big family. He was born very small and sick, but he grew into a boy who had a good sense of humor. He grew up near the Mississippi River, and he liked to watch the riverboats. He had an adventurous childhood. He used his memories and his humor to write funny stories about Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn. People in the United States love to read his stories. So, why is there a statue of him in San Juan del

Sur? In 1867 Mark Twain traveled from San Francisco to New York. He visited San Juan del Sur on the way. He was only in Nicaragua for three days as he traveled across the lake and Rio San Juan to San Juan del Norte. Did Mark Twain meet Ruben Dario while he was in Nicaragua? No, Mr. Dario was a baby in 1867! But the statue lets us imagine what the two writers would say to each other if they sat there together, looking out on the bay.

Who was Mark Twain?