



colloquial: familiar; informal; often pertaining to the distinct manners, use of language, and mores of a region

Davy Crockett: a celebrated frontiersman who, among other things, participated in the battle of the Alamo. Many legends prevail about his adventures; several of these are related to keelboat episodes. Twain picks up on this type of storytelling in Chapter 3 of *Life on the Mississippi*

Mike Fink: a legendary frontier character who had various adventures on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers; many are centered on keelboat episodes; Fink was called "king of the keelboatman."

metaphor: a direct literary comparison, often drawing similarities between unlike objects

pseudonym: a fictitious name under which a writer presents himself as an author

transfigure: 1. to change appearance, a metamorphosis; 2. to exalt, illuminate