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Major An      1.1  
The Formalistic Approach  
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A Short Story      17.6.22

The formalistic approach examines the text itself and explains how a closer reading of the text can lead to deeper meaning and understanding. By looking closely and making meaning of the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn through a formalistic lens, critics interpret examples of irony, humor, sarcasm, lies, and hypocrisy. Twain's use of these literary devices adds deeper meaning to the text and impacts the reader's interpretation of the novel as a whole.

The Formalistic approach is referred as the "Scientific approach" because of the systematic manner in which it looks at the text. New Criticism was able to gain popularity and has become a major literary theory. The close examination of a piece of work can be applied for any purpose.

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Mark Twain used numerous literary techniques in order to enhance his reading experience as well as make a point about society and its flaws. He used sarcasm and irony to criticize groups such as Southerners and KKK. There are connections between Twain and Huck Finn as well. As a child, Twain believed that slaves were property and did not want to be a "low-down Abolitionist". However, as he grew up, he saw the evils in slavery and when he published the novel in 1852, his views had completely changed. He can see this growth and transformation in Huck as well.

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