

## The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

### Chapter 1:

- Why is Aunt Polly taking care of Tom?
- Who is Sid?
- Complete the analogy... Tom : Sid :: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_
- Based on chapter 1, write a character sketch of either Tom or Aunt Polly.

### Chapter 2:

- What task did Aunt Polly give to Tom to do?
- Compare the technique Tom used on Jim with the technique Tom used on the other boys. Describe each technique, and then tell which worked better and why you think it worked better.
- Explain what the following quote means in your own words: "...that Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do, and that Play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do." (give your own example)
- Complete the analogy... Michael Jordan : basketball :: Tom Sawyer : \_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter 3:

Explain what each of the title parts is referring to in the chapter:

- Tom as a General
- Triumph and Reward
- Dismal Felicity
- Commission and Omission

### Chapter 4:

- If Tom is not especially bright or hard working, how did he get enough tickets to win a Bible?
- The author makes fun of almost everyone in this chapter by describing how they were "showing off". Match the actions with the show offs:

Mr. Walters (superintendent)	threw paper wads
Tom Sawyer	pulling hair; making faces
Judge Thatcher	running around with books; making a fuss
young lady teachers	smiling proudly and importantly
librarian	scoldings; displays of discipline
young gentlemen teachers	lovingly warning children; patting heads

- Name one example of irony in this chapter.
- Name one example of just desserts in this chapter.
- Complete the analogy... Tom Sawyer : memorizing passages :: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

### Chapter 5:

- In the incident of the poodle dog and pinch bug, what technique of humor does the author use?

- You now have read 5 chapters of the novel. You are learning more and more about the character Tom Sawyer all the time. Improve upon your character sketch from chapter 1 by writing a new character sketch of Tom Sawyer. This time your character sketch should include at least one character trait and support from each chapter.
- Create your own analogy using things from chapter 5: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ :: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

#### Chapter 6:

- How did Aunt Polly use a chunk of fire to pull Tom's tooth?
- Tom and Huck demonstrate a lack of scientific knowledge. List their (three) cures for warts.
- Why do people believe in superstitions?
- How did Tom use his tardiness to win Becky Thatcher's attention? What might have been a better punishment?
- Why did Becky think Tom was someone special?
- Why do you think Becky slapped Tom if she was pleased?
- What is one example of "just desserts" from chapter 6?

#### Chapter 7:

- List three ways Tom tries to impress Becky.
- How does Tom get himself into trouble with her?

#### Chapter 8:

- For each of the 8 chapters so far, what has been Tom's major adventure? 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8
- Why did Tom play hooky?
- Why was it probably easier for Tom to play hooky than for you?
- Read the title of chapter 9. What adventures do you think Tom will have in the next chapter?

#### Chapter 9:

- Why did Huck and Tom go to the graveyard?
- What prayer does Tom start praying? Why is this funny?
- Who killed the doctor? Prove it.
- Why did the killer do it?

#### Chapter 10:

- Why did Huck and Tom write and sign an oath to "keep mum"?
- How would your mother treat you at the breakfast table if you had been out half the night?
- How did Aunt Polly treat Tom?
- How did she know about Tom's adventure? How much did she know?
- Explain the meaning of the statement: "It was his brass andiron knob! This final feather broke the camel's back."

#### Chapter 11:

- Why do you think Injun Joe, Potter, Huck and Tom returned to the scene of the crime?
- What did Tom and Huck expect would happen to Injun Joe when he told his lies?
- How did Tom and Huck explain that Injun Joe could lie under oath and get away with it?
- Why did Tom fake a toothache and tie his mouth shut?
- Tom felt guilty about not telling what he knew about the murder. How did he try to ease his conscience?
- Complete the analogy... Muff Potter : \_\_\_\_\_ :: Injun Joe : \_\_\_\_\_

#### Chapter 12:

- In referring to her doctoring skills, to what is Aunt Polly compared at the beginning of the chapter?
- What does this statement mean: "The boy was mending the health of a crack in the sitting room floor with it"?
- What words did Twain use to show that Peter, the cat, did not want to drink the Painkiller?
- How did the cat react to the Painkiller?
- How did Tom show off to Becky? Why do you think he did this?
- Why do you think Twain inserts this chapter after the terrible murder?
- Look at the next chapter's title. Will this be a serious or funny one?

#### Chapter 13:

- What had "forced" Tom into pursuing a "life of crime"?
- Who were the other two boys that joined Tom? Why did each agree to go with Tom?
- Where does Tom get all his ideas about how pirates and hermits act?
- Who, in your opinion, is the leader of this band of pirates? Back up your opinion from the story.
- Who was the "intruder" that would not go away? What did this intruder accuse Tom and Joe of?
- Why do you think these boys might not be away from home much longer?

#### Chapter 14:

- Twain uses the figure of speech "Nature shaking off sleep..." in this chapter. What is really happening? Do you know what this figure of speech is called?
- What are five reasons Twain gives for the fish tasting so good to the boys?
- In this chapter, all three of the boys begin to feel homesick. Why don't they say anything about it? Which one of the boys does, however, put out a "feeler"?
- Why was a cannon being shot over the water?
- Who were the townspeople looking for?
- At the end of the chapter, Tom leaves the camp. Without reading ahead, make a prediction about where he is going. After writing your guess, skim the next chapter to check your prediction. Were you close?

**Chapter 15:**

- Name three things that Tom learned by hiding under the bed.
- Compare Tom to the other boys in the T-diagram below:

Trait	Tom	Huck & Joe
Good ideas		
Courage		
Speech		
Actions		

- Name two things from the last few chapters that show Tom has a real "flair for the dramatic".
- Make a prediction about how Tom will use the information about the funeral.

**Chapter 16:**

- Name four ways that Tom and his fellow pirates coped with homesickness.
- Why did Tom and Joe pretend they had to find Joe's knife?
- Why didn't they admit smoking made them sick?

**Chapter 17:**

- What do people say about Tom and Joe whom they think are dead? Why don't they remember and talk about what rascals the boys were?
- What can you learn about Tom's character from chapter 17 (character trait & support)?

**Chapter 18:**

- Who probably guessed the truth about Tom's wild dream?
- In what way could such a lie like this backfire on Tom?
- After Tom "returned from the dead", how did he treat Becky Thatcher?
- Why do you think Becky chose to look at a picture book with Alfred?
- Compare Becky and Tom's actions by telling how each of Becky's actions were similar to or different from Tom's actions (Tom's actions are listed for you):

Tom's Actions	Becky's Actions
1. Ignored Becky 2. Paid attention to Amy 3. Still liked Becky	

- Describe what is really meant by these figures of speech:
  1. "...but they were food and drink to him."
  2. "...but her feet were treacherous."
  3. "....he kept drifting about to find Becky and lacerate her with the performance."
  4. "...the girl chirped on."

#### Chapter 19:

- This chapter shows another side of Tom's character. What does Aunt Polly discover that makes her say she would forgive Tom "...if he'd committed a million sins"?

#### Chapter 20:

- What kind of book did the teacher, Mr. Dobbins, keep in his desk?
- What "crime" did Becky commit?
- Because of what Becky said after Tom caught her snooping in Mr. Dobbins' desk, what generalization did Tom make about all girls?
- Who did Tom think had spilled ink in his spelling book?
- One of the words that could characterize Tom would be "impulsive". Find an example in this chapter to prove that Tom is impulsive.
- Find another example from a different chapter that proves Tom is impulsive. Write the example and the chapter you got it from.
- Make a prediction. Do you think Tom and Mr. Dobbins will have further problems?
- Complete the analogy... Tom : \_\_\_\_\_ :: \_\_\_\_\_ : Damsel in Distress

#### Chapter 21:

- Choose a modern-day event that would be similar to Examination Night. List two similarities and two differences between them.
- Why did the boys want to get even with Mr. Dobbins?
- How did the sign painter's son get a chance to paint Mr. Dobbins' bald head?
- Describe how and who exposed the school master's head.

#### Chapter 22:

- Based on the first paragraph, the author is suggesting that...When you can't do something, you \_\_\_\_\_, and when you are free to do something, you \_\_\_\_\_.
- Name two things that made Tom's summer vacation miserable.
- About what did Tom still feel guilty?
- Prove from chapter 22 that the revival religion did not have a lasting effect.

#### Chapter 23:

- What "event" changed Tom's boring summer?
- Based on the first pages, which best describes Tom?  
a. paranoid                      b. free from guilt                      c. a suspect in the murder
- Why did Tom and Huck bring tobacco and matches to Potter? Where do you think they got these presents?
- How did Tom feel after talking with Potter?
- What was the expected outcome after the second day of the trial? Injun Joe (guilty or innocent)? Muff Potter (guilty or innocent)?
- The defense attorney did not cross examine any witnesses on the last day of the trial. What was he counting on?

- After reading the end of the chapter, can you figure out when Tom probably talked to the defense attorney?

#### Chapter 24:

- In this chapter, Tom's feelings change by night and day. Describe his feelings below and then tell why they change as they did:  
     During the day Tom felt...  
     At night Tom felt...

#### Chapter 25:

- According to Tom, where is buried treasure usually hidden?
  - a. under the end of a limb on an old dead tree
  - b. on islands
  - c. under the floor in haunted houses
  - d. all of the above
- According to Tom, who usually hides the treasure?
  - a. widows
  - b. robbers
  - c. Sunday school superintendents
  - d. Jackson
  - e. all of the above
- What did Huck want to do with his share of the treasure if any were found?
- Why wouldn't Huck want to save any of it?
- What five things did Tom want to spend his share of the treasure on?
- Tom and Huck did not find treasure by digging for it. According to Tom, what was the reason for this?
- As the chapter ends, what future spot do the boys agree to try?

#### Chapter 26:

- Tell whether each of following was an omen for good or bad luck: Friday, a dream about rats, rats in a dream fight, rats in a dream that don't fight
- What do the boys decide to do about their planned treasure hunt?
  - a. wait for Saturday
  - b. go anyway, but don't talk about rats
  - c. wait until midnight
  - d. bring a dead rate along to battle the evil spirits
- Using context clues, is it good or bad to be a "brick"?
- While in the "haunted" house, Huck and Joe become trapped upstairs while two men enter downstairs. Describe the two men. Which one is really Injun Joe?
- Why don't the boys sneak out when the two men fall asleep?
- Name one reason that the boys were glad they got stuck upstairs? and one reason they were sorry?
- What do you thing the "job" is that Injun Joe wants to carry out?

#### Chapter 27:

- What did Tom dream about?

- What was the the strong argument that made Tom wonder whether or not the whole haunted house adventure was a dream?
- What were Huck's dreams about?
- Where could Injun Joe's Number 1 and Number 2 dens be?
- What was it that frightened Tom when he entered Number 2?

#### Chapter 28:

- A stereotype is a general character with very few individual traits, only traits of a class or group. A stereotype is often unjust or inaccurate. In literature a stereotype is often useful since he or she quickly settles into the background and is easily understood without much explanation. This book was written in 1876, and it is dated by its stereotyped references to Blacks and Indians. Look ahead a bit and find examples of stereotypes (example: Uncle Jake..."a mighty good nigger")
- Why do we study this book if it has objectionable stereotypes of Indians and Blacks? Imagine you had to present arguments to the Board of Education for studying or not studying this book. List one good argument for each side.

#### Chapter 29:

- Why did Tom find the picnic more interesting than the continued watch for Injun Joe?
- Write a brief description of McDougal's cave.
- What sort of games did the boys and girls play in McDougal's cave?
- To whose house did Huck follow Injun Joe and his partner?
- What was Injun Joe planning to do to her? Why?
- To whose house did Huck go for help?
- Mark Twain puts an element of suspense in this chapter. Find one sentence or a part of a sentence that you feel adds suspense to the chapter.
- Complete the analogy... Injun Joe : Injun Joe's Partner :: \_\_\_\_\_ : Huckleberry Finn

#### Chapter 30:

- Why didn't Huck want the credit for calling for help for the widow?
- What mistakes did Huck make when he tried to lie about how he discovered the plot to harm the widow (at least 2)?
- Why was Huck alarmed when the Welshman said they found a bundle?
- Why did Huck become wild-eyed when he heard something had been discovered at the Temperance Tavern?
- Melodrama is a type of fiction (or movie) that is characterized by coincidences, suspense, sentimental episodes, romance and a typical happy ending. Give one example of each melodrama characteristic.

#### Chapter 31:

- Find at least one more example of each characteristic of melodrama from this chapter: coincidence, suspense, sentimental episode, romance and happy ending.
- What did you think was funny in this chapter? Why?

- What character trait of Tom Sawyer is evident in this chapter?
- What are the two main plots in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer? Describe how you think each of the plots is progressing.
- Make a prediction about how the story will turn out.

Chapter 32:

- Why do you think Tom didn't tell everyone that he had seen Injun Joe in the cave?
- Why couldn't Injun Joe get out of the cave?

Chapter 33:

- If Injun Joe knew he couldn't hack his way out with a knife, why did he even try?
- What two things had he eaten to try and stay alive?
- What did Injun Joe die of?
- If you were Tom, would you have gone back to the caves to hunt for the treasure? Why or why not?
- What proves that Tom has not grown up completely?