

SIMPLIFIED READERS

A2
LEVEL 2

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

MARK TWAIN



WORKSHEETS

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ABOUT THE BOOK

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is a novel about a young boy growing up in a small town on the banks of the Mississippi in the 1840s. Mark Twain wrote the novel in 1876. It tells the boy's adventures, often with his friend Huckleberry Finn. Mark Twain later continued this story in his novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, which he wrote in 1884. These two books are among the best works of American literature. They both became bestselling books during Twain's lifetime. In *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Mark Twain was inspired by his own childhood experiences in the town where he grew up. The places in the book, such as Cardiff Hill, Jackson's Island and McDougal's Cave, are real.

SUMMARY

Tom Sawyer is a 12-year-old boy living with his Aunt Polly in a village near the Mississippi River. He enjoys having adventures and often gets in trouble. He is a lazy student and often skips school, which makes his aunt very angry. One day, after skipping school and getting into a fight, Aunt Polly punishes him with the task of painting the fence around the garden. However, Tom tricks other boys to do the work for him and enjoys himself while the boys are working. Meanwhile, he falls in love with a girl named Becky Thatcher. Becky's father is a judge, and they have just arrived from a big city.

On the way to school one Monday morning, Tom runs into Huckleberry Finn, carrying a dead cat. Huck doesn't have a mother, and his father is a drunkard. He lives in the streets and doesn't go to school. Huck tells Tom that he will go to the graveyard that night to see ghosts. Tom decides to go with him and makes a plan to meet Huck when his aunt is asleep. The boys go to the graveyard at midnight, and begin to wait for ghosts, putting the dead cat on a grave. However, they see three men in the dark. One of the men, named Injun Joe, kills another one, Doctor Robinson. He makes it seem like the drunken Muff Potter, the third man, has done it. Because the boys are hiding behind a tree, Injun Joe does not see them. The boys are terrified and run away. Fearing that Injun Joe might kill them too, they promise each other not to tell anyone about the murder.

When Muff Potter gets arrested for the murder and is put in jail, Tom feels very guilty for not telling the truth. His guilt and fear of Injun Joe make him very depressed. Sometime later, Tom, Huck and their friend Joe Harper run away to an island on the Mississippi in order to become pirates. They have a great time there. A few days later, their families and the villagers begin to search for the boys' bodies in the river. They think they are drowned. One night, Tom returns home without being seen and overhears his aunt and Joe's mother talk about the funeral for the boys. When he goes back to the island, he tells his friends about his idea to return on Sunday and go to their own funeral. Huck and Joe think this is a great idea. When they appear at the church on Sunday, everybody is surprised and happy that they are alive. After their return, all the boys at school admire and envy Tom, and Becky realizes that she is in love with him.

Then comes the day of Muff Potter's trial in court. Tom speaks as a witness during the trial and tells the judge that Injun Joe is the real murderer. After this, Muff Potter becomes free, and Injun Joe escapes. Now, Tom is afraid that Injun Joe will definitely want to kill him. Days later, Tom and Huck go to a deserted house on a hill hoping to find some treasure hidden inside. In the house, they see Injun Joe and his partner and watch the two men dig out a metal box full of gold coins. They decide to follow Injun Joe in order to see where he hides the metal box.

One Saturday, Tom and Becky go on a picnic with their classmates to McDougal's cave. When they leave the group to explore the deeper parts of the cave, they get lost. Their friends do not notice their absence and return to the village without them. When Tom and Becky don't show up the next morning, their families begin searching for them with the help of the villagers. In the cave, while he is looking for a way to get out, Tom sees a man behind a big rock. The man is Injun Joe! Tom doesn't tell Becky that Injun Joe is in the cave. Finally, he discovers a hole through which they can escape from the cave. They manage to get home safely.

A few days after their return, Tom goes to visit Becky. Her father tells him that the opening to the cave has been closed so that no one else would go in and get trapped inside. Tom tells the judge that Injun Joe is inside the cave. So, the village men go to the cave, where they find Injun Joe's dead body. Thinking that Injun Joe hid the box of coins under the rock where he saw him in the cave, Tom tells Huck to go back there together. The two boys enter the cave through the hole that Tom and Becky got out and search for the rock. Finally, they really find the metal box. They return to the village with two bags of gold coins. They become very rich.

In the end, a woman named Mrs Douglas adopts Huck Finn. She puts Huck's share of the money in the bank for him to go to college in the future. Aunt Polly does the same for Tom with the help of Becky's father. Now the whole village talks about Tom and Huck with pride, and the two continue to have more adventures together.

Discuss before you begin reading:

- 1 Where did you spend your childhood? Did you have many friends? What games did you play with them? Did you have any adventures? What is your best/worst school/childhood memory?
- 2 Do you think you were a mischievous or an obedient child? Explain why.

A Word Search

Find the twelve words that match the definitions below the puzzle.

B	Q	S	S	K	K	F	S	E	D	I	S	C	H
M	R	L	I	E	U	I	N	F	H	W	U	Y	O
K	R	M	I	R	J	M	U	R	D	E	R	E	R
O	A	C	S	Z	H	T	A	T	L	S	T	A	B
C	R	E	W	U	W	V	P	S	W	C	C	G	R
T	R	I	A	L	F	C	A	V	E	Q	M	O	T
D	C	O	U	R	T	O	Y	Q	Y	O	M	I	Y
Y	N	W	E	U	S	W	I	T	N	E	S	S	C
I	N	V	E	S	T	I	G	A	T	I	O	N	D
H	I	X	H	L	V	F	J	U	D	G	E	J	J
M	H	C	J	A	I	L	L	Q	B	R	P	N	K
P	I	R	A	T	E	T	P	U	X	V	R	M	D
O	Q	J	H	K	O	T	R	E	A	S	U	R	E

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 a large hole in the side of a hill, cliff or mountain, or one that is under the ground: _____</p> <p>2 a place where trials take place in front of a judge and a jury: _____</p> <p>3 the people who work on a ship or plane: _____</p> <p>4 examining a crime to discover the facts about it: _____</p> <p>5 a place where criminals are kept: _____</p> <p>6 a person in court who decides if someone is guilty of a crime or not: _____</p> | <p>7 a person who kills someone: _____</p> <p>8 a sailor who attacks other ships in order to rob them: _____</p> <p>9 to injure someone with a sharp object like a knife: _____</p> <p>10 valuable objects, precious stones, metals or money: _____</p> <p>11 an examination of a crime case in court: _____</p> <p>12 a person who sees a crime or an accident: _____</p> |
|---|--|

B Which chapters? Match the sentences (1-7) with the chapter titles (a-g).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 He named himself the Black Pirate. He named Huck the Red- Handed and Joe, the Destroyer of the Seas. ____</p> <p>2 When he entered the classroom, the teacher angrily said, "Tom Sawyer, you are late again!" ____</p> <p>3 Tom said, "Huck and I will share this money. That's six thousand dollars for each of us." ____</p> <p>4 "We are lost. We can't get out of here. We will die here." ____</p> | <p>5 Suddenly Injun Joe moved behind the doctor and stabbed him in the back with the knife. The doctor died and fell on Potter. ____</p> <p>6 Then, the judge began to question him. "Tom Sawyer, where were you on the night of the murder, at around 12?" ____</p> <p>7 The next day, the boys took a pick and a shovel with them. They went to the old tree on the hill and began to dig. ____</p> |
|--|---|

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>a A Mischievous, Adventurous Boy</p> <p>b Murder in the Graveyard</p> <p>c The Three Pirates</p> <p>d The Trial</p> | <p>e The Treasure Hunters</p> <p>f Trapped in the Cave</p> <p>g The Rich Heroes</p> |
|--|---|

A Stop reading at the end of page 22. Look at this table and match the names in the first column (a-l) with the descriptions in the next two columns (1-24). Put the numbers under the names, as in 'a' 'Aunt Polly'.

a Aunt Polly 18.....	1 doesn't go to school	13 a dead man; died a week ago
b Amy Lawrence	2 witness to the murder in the graveyard	14 is always drunk
c Becky	3 Tom's game partner	15 a quiet boy
d Hoss Williams	4 Tom's younger brother	16 the daughter of a judge
e Huckleberry Finn	5 Aunt Polly's daughter	17 Tom's best friend
f Injun Joe	6 son of a drunken man	18 loves Tom and feels sorry for him
g Jeff Thatcher	7 used to live in a city	19 is killed in the graveyard
h Joe Harper	8 is arrested for murder	20 Tom's new love
i Mary	9 the doctor in the village	21 Jeff Thatcher's cousin
j Muff Potter	10 Tom Sawyer's first love	22 murders the doctor
k Robinson	11 a friend of Tom's; Becky's cousin	23 doesn't have a mother
l Sid	12 a street boy	24 the new student in class

B What happens in the graveyard? Read pages 19-22 again and number the events in the order that they happen after Injun Joe and Muff Potter place the corpse in a wheelbarrow.

During the fight, the doctor knocks Potter down with a piece of board from the coffin.	
The doctor's dead body falls on Muff Potter, who is still lying on the ground.	
The doctor hits Injun Joe in the face and makes him fall down in pain.	
Injun Joe places the bloody knife in Potter's right hand, which is open.	
While the two men are fighting, Injun Joe gets up and grabs Muff's knife from the ground.	
Finally, Injun Joe places the knife next to the dead body, and he escapes too.	14
The doctor refuses to pay any extra money, and Injun Joe approaches him holding his fist up at his face.	
Muff Potter passes out, lying on the ground.	
Muff Potter threatens the doctor with his knife to make him pay five more dollars if he wants them to carry the corpse to his home.	1
A few minutes later, Muff Potter comes to himself, and Injun Joe tells him that he killed the doctor.	
Muff Potter yells at the doctor for hitting his friend. He throws his knife away and begins fighting with him.	
Potter doesn't remember anything, so he believes Injun Joe.	
With Potter's knife, Injun Joe stabs the doctor in the back.	
Believing that he is the killer, Potter runs away, leaving his knife behind.	

A Look at the lines about Tom. Write your own lines about the other characters using the letters given.

E.g.

LIVES WITH HIS AUNT
DOESN'T LIKE SCHOOL
HIS MOTHER IS DEAD

TOM SAWYER



HUCK



.....H.....
.....U.....
.....C.....
.....K.....

BECKY



.....B.....
.....E.....
.....C.....
.....K.....
.....Y.....

INJUN JOE



.....I.....
.....N.....
.....J.....
.....U.....
.....N.....

.....J.....
.....O.....
.....E.....

POTTER



.....P.....
.....O.....
.....T.....
.....T.....
.....E.....
.....R.....

A Mark the sentences as True (T) or False (F). (10x2=20 pts)

- 1 Aunt Polly made Tom paint the fence on a Saturday in order to punish him.
- 2 Tom and his brother Sid are alike in terms of character.
- 3 Aunt Polly keeps a cat in her house.
- 4 None of the boys could speak to Huck.
- 5 Tom and Huck saw three ghosts in the graveyard.
- 6 Tom and Joe Harper did not want Huck to come to the island with them.
- 7 The boys had no food to eat when they were on the island.
- 8 Tom and Huck found no treasure under the old tree on the hill.
- 9 During the trial, the judge did not believe Tom Sawyer.
- 10 Tom shared the treasure with Huck.

B Mark the correct answers. (10x3=30 pts)

- 1 Which is not true about Tom Sawyer?
 - a He is mischievous but also very clever.
 - b He is a mischievous and lazy boy.
 - c He is very obedient to his aunt.
- 2 In the first chapter, Tom - - - .
 - a gives the boys little presents for helping him paint the fence
 - b gets little presents from the boys for letting them paint the fence
 - c forces the boys to paint the fence for him
- 3 Why did Injun Joe leave Potter's knife beside the dead body when he escaped?
 - a He was in a hurry and forgot to take it.
 - b He wanted Potter to appear as the killer.
 - c He thought Potter would come back and get it.
- 4 Why did Joe Harper also want to go away to the island with Tom?
 - a He was bored in the village.
 - b He was curious about the place.
 - c He was angry at his mother.
- 5 How did Joe Harper's mother and Aunt Polly react when the boys returned from the island?
 - a They were very happy.
 - b They were very angry.
 - c They wanted to punish them.
- 6 Which is not true about Injun Joe?
 - a He did not come to the court room on the trial day because he was afraid.
 - b No one suspected that he was the murderer until Tom spoke at the trial.
 - c He had no idea that Tom had seen the murder in the graveyard.
- 7 Why didn't anyone see Injun Joe after he escaped from the court room?
 - a He pretended to be a deaf Mexican man.
 - b He went to a town, where no one knew him.
 - c He fled to Texas.

8 Injun Joe's 'next job' in the village was - - - .

- a to rob the bank
- b to kill Judge Thatcher
- c to take revenge on someone

9 Tom discovered the rock where Injun Joe hid the treasure while he was - - - .

- a looking for a way to get out of the cave
- b following him one night
- c following Joe's partner

10 How much were the gold coins worth?

- a \$ 650
- b \$ 6 thousand
- c \$12 thousand

C Match the words (1-7) with the chapters (a-g). (7x2=14 pts)

- 1 dead cat: _____
- 2 gunfire: _____
- 3 water spring: _____
- 4 witnesses: _____
- 5 jam: _____
- 6 Mrs Douglas' party: _____
- 7 broken staircase: _____

a A Mischievous, Adventurous Boy	d The Trial
b Murder in the Graveyard	e The Treasure Hunters
c The Three Pirates	f Trapped in the Cave
	g The Rich Heroes

D Who said these to whom? Write the names. (6x2=12 pts)

- 1 "You boys have been very good to me."
_____ to _____
- 2 "Tell us what happened. Be honest, and do not be afraid to speak."
_____ to _____
- 3 "After the job, we will escape to Texas with the money."
_____ to _____
- 4 "My mother will think I'm at Susan Harper's house."
_____ to _____
- 5 "So, my men covered the door at the mouth of the cave with iron bars."
_____ to _____
- 6 "You will be my son and live with me."
_____ to _____

E Match the two halves of the sentences. (1-8 with a-h) (8x3=24 pts)

- 1 Huck took a dead cat to the graveyard
 - 2 Dr Robinson wanted to have a dead body
 - 3 Injun Joe was revengeful against the doctor
 - 4 Huck and Tom told no one about the murder
 - 5 Everyone thought that the boys were drowned
 - 6 Tom and Huck went to the old tree on the hill
 - 7 Injun Joe was found dead in the cave
 - 8 After Joe's funeral, Tom and Huck went to the cave again
- a because he couldn't get out
 - b to find some treasure
 - c because they found their boat in the river
 - d to get the metal box with the gold coins
 - e for his medical research
 - f to call spirits from the graves
 - g because they feared that Injun Joe would kill them
 - h because his father had sent him to jail before

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