

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Before you read :

- * *Have you read any adventurous story ?*
- * *Have you read any book of Mark Twain ?*

“Tom, Tom !” Aunt Polly was searching for Tom everywhere inside the house. “Well, if I get hold of you, I’ll...” Aunt said.

She was really tired of this boy and of his mischief. Just then she heard a little noise behind her. She turned just in time and caught hold of him.

“What are you doing here ?” Aunt said.

“Nothing Aunt, just nothing,” Tom replied.

“What is there in your mouth ? Oh, it’s jam. Now I understand what you were doing here,” Aunt Polly gave him a stern look.

Suddenly Tom said, “Oh, look behind you, Aunt.”

Aunt whirled around and Tom fled before Aunt could realize what had happened. But in spite of all his mischief Aunt Polly loved him. Tom was the only son of her dead sister. She was very fond of him.

She decided to make him work the next day as it was a Saturday. She said to herself, “Tom is to be kept busy so that he can’t waste time idly.” She called Tom and ordered him to whitewash the fence the next day.

It was a fine Saturday morning. Tom came out of the house with a bucket of whitewash and



a long handled brush. He looked at the fence lazily and then dipped his brush and started whitewashing the topmost plank of the fence. After doing this several times, he felt tired and bored. He knew all his friends would be playing or swimming on that Saturday. And he ... ? Oh ! How badly he wanted to go out and enjoy like the other boys !

Just then Tom saw Jim. Jim worked for Aunt Polly. He came with a tin pail to fetch water from the town pump. Though Tom hated this work, he found Jim's work better than his that day because there could be other children playing near the town pump. He made a plan and offered Jim to fetch water for him. But before they could come to a conclusion Jim heard the sound of Aunt Polly's slippers and he flew down the street with his pail. Poor Tom ! He again started whitewashing the fence.

A few minutes later he saw Ben come up the road. He was eating an apple. Tom did not pay attention to him and pretended as if he were absorbed in his work. Ben came near him and teased him for working on a holiday. Tom suddenly looked at him in surprise.

"Oh, Ben ! I didn't notice you," Tom said.

Ben told him that he was going for a swim. He thought Tom would be jealous of it. But Tom said, "Oh no ! I can't leave this chance to whitewash. It's so enjoyable !" Saying this he was again absorbed in his work.

This time Ben was tempted and said, "Please let me whitewash a little, Tom." "No, no, I can't. It has to be done very carefully, Ben. Everyone can't do it."

Ben got more tempted. "Please Tom, only once. I'll give you my apple in return," Ben pleaded. Tom was pleased at the success of his plan. He said, "Okay, but be careful."

Ben started whitewashing the fence with great enthusiasm. Thus when Ben painted the fence in the sun, Tom sat comfortably in the shade of a



tree and started munching on the partly eaten apple. He was pleased and satisfied to see that his plan had worked.

After some time Ben saw Billy Fisher coming towards them. By now Ben became tired. He felt for some rest. So, he wanted to play the same trick on Billy Fisher. Ben tempted Billy to whitewash the fence. But Tom was watching the whole thing. He asked Billy Fisher to give him something in return for getting the chance of whitewashing. Billy had to give a kite to Tom for this opportunity. Another boy Johnny Miller also took the chance of whitewashing offering Tom a dead rat. By the afternoon Tom collected twelve marbles, a piece of chalk, a tin soldier, a couple of tadpoles, a kitten, the handle of a knife and six firecrackers. In return Tom got the fence whitewashed thrice !

[**Mark Twain** : (30 November, 1835– 21 April, 1910) He was an American writer and humorist who captured a world audience with stories of his boyhood adventure. Some of his popular books are : *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Adventure of Huckleberry Finn*, *Tom Sawyer Abroad*, *Tom Sawyer*, *Detective etc.*]

Word Notes :

get hold of	:	grasp something
catch hold of	:	to seize something or someone
stern	:	expressing strong disapproval
whirled around	:	to turn around quickly
mischievous	:	annoying behaviour
whitewash	:	to paint with whitewash
enthusiasm	:	strong excitement / feeling for something one enjoys
fence	:	a structure built with bamboo, wood etc., surrounding a house, garden etc.
tadpole	:	young one of a frog

Remember the words

get hold of	mischief	whirled around	idly	whitewash
dipped	fetch	conclusion	flew down	pretended
absorbed	teased	jealous	enjoyable	tempted
pleaded	enthusiasm	comfortably	munching on	collected
soldier	tadpoles	firecrackers		

For the teacher only

The students are expected to learn the use of different kinds of adjectives as well as direct and indirect speech in sentences.

Comprehension :

1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
 - a) Who was searching for Tom ?
 - b) What was Tom ordered to do on that Saturday ?
 - c) Who worked for Aunt Polly ?
 - d) What was Ben doing when Tom saw him ?
 - e) How did Tom react on seeing Ben ?
 - f) What was Ben tempted for ?
 - g) What did he give Tom in return ?
2. How did Tom start his work ?
3. What did Tom collect at the end of the day ?
4. Write whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) Jim came with a bag.
 - b) Tom said that it was very enjoyable to whitewash the fence.
 - c) Billy Fisher gave Tom a kite.
 - d) At the end of the day the fence had been whitewashed twice.
6. Frame sentences of your own with the following.
get hold of; catch hold of; fly down; come up; search for

Grammar and Usage :

A.

Adjectives

An Adjective is a word which is used to describe a noun or a pronoun.

Example : She is a **beautiful** girl.

Some types of Adjectives are :

1. **Adjectives of Quality** : These adjectives show the kind or quality of a person or thing.

Examples :

- i) Guwahati is a **large** city.
- ii) He is a **poor** man.
- iii) My grandmother is a **rich** lady.
- iv) Her grandfather is a **noble** person.
- v) The cup of tea is very **hot**.
- vi) Raman is an **honest** man.
- vii) It is a **cold** day.
- viii) He was a **great** king of India.

2. **Adjectives of Quantity** : These adjectives tell the quantity of a thing or an idea.

Examples :

- i) You need **much** patience to solve this problem.
- ii) Please give me **some** rice.
- iii) She needs a **huge** amount of money to finish the course.
- iv) Give me a **little** water.
- v) You can buy **any** book you like.
- vi) We need **enough** practice to win the match.
- vii) He spent the **whole** amount of money in buying the books.
- viii) There has not been **sufficient** rain this year.

3. **Adjectives of Number** : These adjectives show how many persons or things are meant or in what order they stand.

Examples :

- i) Only **eight** students attended the meeting.
- ii) She is the **first** girl of the class.
- iii) **All** men are mortal.
- iv) My mother bought **many** books on history last year.
- v) **Several** members of the committee were absent yesterday.

Note : Adjectives of Number can be divided into two groups :

- a) Definite Numeral Adjectives
- b) Indefinite Numeral Adjectives

a) **Definite Numeral Adjectives** can again be divided into two groups :

- i) **Cardinals** : *one, two three, four etc.*
- ii) **Ordinals** : *first, second, third, fourth etc.*

b) **Indefinite Numeral Adjectives** : *many, all, several etc.*

(Adjectives of Number are used with countable nouns like balls, pens, shirts etc.

Adjectives of Quantity are used with uncountable nouns like water, salt, sugar, milk etc.

Some adjectives like 'some' and 'sufficient' can be used for both countable and uncountable nouns.)

4. **Proper Adjectives** : These adjectives are formed from a proper name.

Examples :

- i) I like the **Asian** music.
- ii) This brand of tea is better than **Chinese** tea.
- iii) He likes the **French** cars.
- iv) I ordered an **English** dictionary.
- v) We saw many **African** animals in the zoo.

5. **Demonstrative Adjectives** : These adjectives point out which persons or things are meant.

Examples :

- i) I like to buy **such** books.
- ii) **That** volcano is active.

- iii) **This** fruit is sweet and sour.
- iv) **These** tributaries flow through the district of Barpeta.
- v) **Those** tea gardens are very beautiful.

6. **Distributive Adjectives** : These adjectives describe a person or a thing separately.

Examples :

- i) **Each** participant will get a certificate.
- ii) You may choose **either** shirt.
- iii) She took **neither** side.
- iv) **Every** athlete wore a blue cap.

7. **Interrogative Adjectives** : These adjectives come before a noun for asking questions.

Examples :

- i) **Whose** pen is this ?
- ii) **Which** shirt is yours ?
- iii) **What** news did your father bring ?

8. **Possessive Adjectives** : These adjectives take a noun after it (my, our, your, his, her, their, its - when used attributively before nouns are classified as possessive adjectives or pronominal adjectives).

Examples :

- i) The dog wagged **its** tail.
- ii) This is **his** book.
- iii) **My** pen is lost.
- iv) **Their** house is big.
- v) **Your** handwriting is beautiful.
- vi) That is **her** doll.
- vii) This is **our** school.

Activity 1

Identify the adjectives and classify them.

- i) The night was warm yesterday.
- ii) These dishes are prepared with fresh tomatoes.

- iii) A few people were absent from the meeting.
- iv) He has enough money to buy this plot of land.
- v) All the boys played well.
- vi) I ordered a half plate of chowmein.
- vii) That almira is full of Shakespearean plays.
- viii) This is the baby's first birthday.
- ix) You can buy any book you like.
- x) Some girls of this school took part in the dance competition.
- xi) Whose pen is there on the table ?
- xii) Those are her toys.
- xiii) Neither pen writes well.
- xiv) Every girl wore a beautiful traditional dress for the party.
- xv) They spent their money in buying books.
- xvi) Which box is yours ?

Activity 2

Given below are some proper names. Form the proper adjectives from them and use them in sentences.

Assam; Hyderabad; Punjab; Manipur; Rajasthan

B. Direct and Indirect speech

Direct Speech : What is actually spoken by a person word to word, without making any changes, is said to be in direct speech.

e.g. Ritul said, "I went to my village last week."

(Ritul is the speaker here.)

Indirect Speech : When it is reported or spoken again/ later by someone else, it is said to be in indirect speech.

e.g. Ritul said that he had gone to his village the previous week.

(Here Ritul is not the speaker. Someone else is the speaker.)

The common changes made in the indirect speech while changing it from the direct speech are :

- * change in tense
- * change of personal pronouns
- * change of time and place

Remember if the reporting verb of the direct speech is in present or future time, the tense of the verb in the indirect speech remains unchanged.

For example :

Direct speech : Rohit says, "I am always busy."

Indirect Speech : Rohit says that he is always busy.

Direct Speech : She will say, "I can dance."

Indirect Speech : She will say that she can dance.

But if the reporting verb is in the past tense, the tense of the verb in the direct speech changes when we write the sentence in indirect speech.

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
Simple Present Tense	Simple Past Tense
Present Continuous Tense	Past Continuous Tense
Present Perfect Tense	Past Perfect Tense
Present Perfect Continuous Tense	Past Perfect Continuous Tense
Simple Past Tense	Past Perfect Tense
Past Continuous Tense	Past Perfect Continuous Tense
Past Perfect Tense	Past Perfect Tense
Past Perfect Continuous Tense	Past Perfect Continuous Tense
will/shall	would/should
may	might
can	could

Change of Time and Place :

Direct Speech	Indirect Speech
this	that
these	those
now	then
thus	so
today	that day
tonight	that night
yesterday	the day before/the previous day
tomorrow	the next day/the following day
last week	the week before/the previous week
last year	the year before/the previous year
ago	before
next week	the following week
next year	the following year

Examples :

- i) Mohan **said**, "I **draw** pictures."
Mohan **said** that he **drew** pictures.
- ii) Nazma **said**, "My father **is going** to the market."
Nazma **said** that her father **was going** to the market.
- iii) They **said**, "We **have finished** our homework."
They **said** that they **had finished** their homework.
- iv) Ritismita **said**, "I **met** him **yesterday**."
Ritismita **said** that she **had met** him **the day before**.
- v) Monali **said to** her mother, "I **had finished** the project before sunset."
Monali **told** her mother that she **had finished** the project before sunset.
- vi) Bikram **said to** me, "I **shall** go to my uncle's house."
Bikram **told** me that he **would** go to his uncle's house.

- vii) The girl **said to** him, “It **may** rain.”
The girl **told** him that it **might** rain.
- viii) The boy **said**, “I **can** solve this problem.”
The boy **said** that he **could** solve that problem.

Exception :

The simple present tense of the reported speech (Indirect Speech) does not change in the following conditions.

universal truth

proverb

scientific fact

habitual action

something which still exists

Examples :

- i) The teacher said, “The sun sets in the west”. (universal truth)
The teacher said that the sun sets in the west.
- ii) He said, “A friend in need is a friend indeed.” (proverb)
He said that a friend in need is a friend indeed.
- iii) He said, “Water boils at 100° c.” (scientific fact)
He said that water boils at 100° c.
- iv) The lady said to me, “I like mangoes.” (habitual act)
The lady told me that she likes mangoes.
- v) He said, “My name is Biman”. (fact)
He said that his name is Biman.
- vi) My father said, “The Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden is in Guwahati.”
My father said that the Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden is in Guwahati.
(something which still exists)

Activity 3

Change the form of narration of the following.

- i) Sankar said to me, “I have lost my pen.”
- ii) Runa said, “My brother likes chocolates.”
- iii) I said to her, “I visited Jaipur last year.”

- iv) Sristijeeta said, "I get up at 6 o'clock in the morning."
- v) They said to us, "We will play a match today in the school playground."
- vi) Mr. Bora said to me, "I have been learning the violin for two years."
- vii) My mother said, "You must do your homework."
- viii) Rashmi said to me, "I shall meet Kangkana tomorrow."
- ix) Joya said, "My mother cooks very well."
- x) The teacher said, "Water flows downward."

Phrasal Verbs

- Break up : Our school **breaks up** at 3 p.m.
- Break down : His health **broke down** by hard work.
- Carry on : He will **carry on** his father's business.
- Come about : How did the accident **come about** ?

Idioms

- A red alert : On the forecast of a cyclone, **a red alert** was notified on the coastal area.
- A square peg in a round hole : The new student felt himself like **a square peg in a round hole**.
- All of a sudden : **All of a sudden** they could see a deer coming out of the bush in the jungle.

Writing Activity

Story Writing

Story writing is a form of written composition. Before writing a story, one must have a very clear idea of the plot. It should be neither too short nor too long. The story should invariably be written in the past tense unless demanded otherwise. It should be written in a simple and grammatically accurate language. We should choose the title of the story very carefully. The story may be divided into paragraphs. We can also use dialogues. At the end we can add a suitable moral to it.

Following are two examples of story writing :

1. Outline : A king has a wise minister who has deep faith in god — often says "It is all for the best" — the king gets a boil on his thumb — the surgeon

cuts the thumb — the minister says, “It is all for the best.” — the king throws him in jail — the king goes to the forest for hunting — is caught by tribals — they decide to sacrifice him before their goddess — the cut finger saves him — comes back and sets the minister free — begs his pardon.

It is all for the best

Once a king who was very whimsical, ruled over a small state in Central India. He had a minister who was wise and experienced with a deep faith in god and often used to say “It is all for the best.” The king also had respect for his wise minister and often sought his advice in different administrative matters. Everything was going on smoothly between the king and his minister. But suddenly this relationship took a turn for the worst after an incident.

The king got a boil on the thumb of his right hand. It was very painful and started swelling very badly. It became very difficult for him to perform his day to day activities. His doctor also could not cure this disease even after they had tried many good herbal medicines. The king found it impossible to bear this severe pain and got frustrated. At last the surgeons discussed among themselves and decided to cut the thumb as they had no other options.

After the operation the minister came to see the king in the royal hospital. He greeted the king saying, “It is all for the best, your highness.” The king had been already upset for the loss of his thumb. Now when the minister uttered this, he got furious. “How dare you say such things at this moment ? You foolish minister !” Saying this he immediately sent for the guards and ordered them to arrest the minister and send him to prison. While leaving for prison, the minister once again said, “It is all for the best. Thank you my lord.”

Days passed by. The king overcame the sadness of losing his thumb. In order to spend a summer afternoon amidst nature, he went to a remote jungle for a hunt. Usually, the minister, now a prisoner, used to go with the king in such adventurous outings. The king alone ventured out this time. Unfortunately, he lost the way home and was trapped in the deep forest. Night was approaching. The king got scared and to his misfortune he was about to fall a victim to the tribals of that forest. They caught him and decided to sacrifice him before their goddess. For this they inspected if there was any wound in the king’s body because a wounded human could not be sacrificed. To their despair they discovered that the right thumb of the king was missing. They

had to abandon the idea and set the king free. The king rushed to the palace with the help of two kind-hearted tribals. He immediately went to the prison and set the minister free. He hugged him and begged his pardon for committing such a blunder. The minister then replied, "It is all for the best, my lord. If I had been with you today in the jungle, they would have sacrificed me instead of you."

2. Outline : A man buys a birthday cake — the confectioner gives him a little less weight than required — the man complains — the salesman says, "Don't worry, you will have less to carry." Clever man pays less money — the salesman complains — the man says, "Don't worry, you will have less to count."

The clever man

A man went to a confectioner to buy a birthday cake for his son's birthday. He chose a beautiful cake and asked the salesman its price. He didn't weigh the cake and promptly said that it was one kilogram and it cost Rs. 400. The man asked him to pack the cake. When he took it from the salesman, he found its weight was less than a kilogram. He requested the salesman to weigh the cake before him. The salesman unwillingly took the cake and placed it on the weighing machine. The display screen showed that it was less than one kilogram. The man was very unhappy at such a dishonest trick of the salesman. He asked, "Why did you say it was one kilogram?" The salesman replied, "Don't worry, you will have less to carry now." The man did not argue further but decided to teach him a lesson. He smiled and paid Rs.300. The salesman got irritated and rudely asked the man, "I told you it is Rs. 400. Have you forgotten?" The man calmly replied, "Don't worry, you will have less to count now." The salesman realized his stupidity. He felt ashamed of such misbehaviour.

Moral : Tit for tat.

Activity

Read the following outline carefully and write a meaningful story. Add a title to it.

Outline : Two women quarrel over a child — each claims the child to be hers — come to court — judge orders to cut the child into two — one gives up her claim and says, "Don't cut the child." — the other remains silent — judge decides.



Build Up Your Vocabulary

Demonyms

(A demonym is the name for the people from a certain place.)

Continent	Demonym
1. Africa	African
2. Antarctica	Antarctican
3. Asia	Asian
4. Australia	Australian
5. Europe	European
6. North America	North American
7. South America	South American

Country	Demonym
1. Argentina	Argentine
2. Indonesia	Indonesian
3. Belgium	Belgian
4. Mexico	Mexican
5. Sri Lanka	Sri Lankan
6. Ireland	Irish
7. Britain	British
8. Bhutan	Bhutanese
9. Burma	Burmese
10. China	Chinese
11. Egypt	Egyptian
12. Scotland	Scottish
13. Germany	German

Country	Demonym
14. India	Indian
15. Kenya	Kenyan
16. Malaysia	Malaysian
17. Russia	Russian
18. Tibet	Tibetan
19. Poland	Polish
20. Afghanistan	Afghan
21. Brazil	Brazilian
22. Canada	Canadian
23. Denmark	Danish
24. England	English
25. France	French
26. Greece	Greek

Country	Demonym
27. Austria	Austrian
28. Iran	Iranian
29. Israel	Israeli
30. Norway	Norwegian
31. Pakistan	Pakistani
32. Roman	Romanian
33. Sweden	Swedish
34. Thailand	Thai
35. Uganda	Ugandan
36. Uruguay	Uruguayan
37. Italy	Italian

Country	Demonym
38. Hungary	Hungarian
39. Iraq	Iraqi
40. Nigeria	Nigerian
41. Oman	Omani
42. Portugal	Portugese
43. Spain	Spanish
44. Switzerland	Swiss
45. Turkey	Turkish
46. Ukraine	Ukrainian
47. Vietnam	Vietnamese
48. Zimbabwe	Zimbabwean

Country	Demonym
49. United Arab Emirates(UAE)	Emirati
50. United States of America	American
51. United Kingdom	British
52. Holand (The Netherlands)	Dutch
53. South Korea	South Korean
54. North Korea	North Korean
55. Saudi Arab	Saudi Arabian/Saudi
56. Singapore	Singaporean
