

## Tom Sawyer

Tom Sawyer is the fictional character of Mark Twain in his novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Tom is 12 years old and lives in St. Petersburg by the Mississippi River. The novel takes place in 1845. His best friends are Joe Harper and Huckleberry Finn. He lives with his brother Sid, his cousin Mary and his aunt Polly. He is totally infatuated with Becky Thatcher.

Tom is extremely *content* with his life. His aunt Polly thinks that his brain has no *content*, because he never pays attention to her words.

He has a vivid *bass* voice and big eyes. He enjoys fishing and hanging out with friends. *Bass* species are probably his favorite fish as they live in rivers, *too*. He never catches *two* fish at once. Sometimes, he looks at the river in *minute* detail, but he cannot see fish in less than a *minute*.

Tom always thinks of Becky. He used to give her a yellow *rose* when the sun *rose*, but now he is too shy. During the summer, Tom *lies* under the shade of oak trees. He also *lies* to his aunt Polly when he has not done his chores.

Huckleberry Finn looks like an *eight* year old, but he is twelve. He is the son of a vagabond and he barely *ate* as a little boy. He has *been* poor all his life and he would like to have a hot *bean* dish for dinner once in a while. He has gone through difficult moments and has *seen* a horrible *scene* at the bar corner. He tries to live happily by the river playing with Tom everyday.

- How closely did you read? In the following sentences, identify the accurate meaning of the word in italics. Match column A with column B.

1  
He would like to have a hot *bean* dish.

A  
sixty seconds

2  
Tom is extremely *content* with his life.

B  
simple past tense of eat

3  
He has *been* poor all his life

C  
freshwater fish

4  
He barely *ate* as a little boy.

D  
significance or profundity

5  
His aunt Polly thinks his brain has no *content*.

E  
satisfied or happy

6  
*Bass* species are probably his *favorite*.

F  
the edible seed of the legume family  
genus *Phaseolus*

7  
He looks at the river in *minute* detail.

G  
the lowest adult male voice

8  
Finn looks *like* an *eight* year old.

H  
detailed, exact, precise

9  
He has a vivid *bass* voice and big eyes.

I  
past participle of be

10  
He cannot see fish in less than a *minute*.

J  
natural number following 7 and preceding  
9

- Identify if the words in the following sentences are homonyms or homophones. Write the correct answer in the blanks.



1. People from Tom's town *desert* the streets when it is really hot.
2. His favorite *dessert* is apple pie.

---

1. Huckleberry Finn feels *well*.
2. Finn drinks fresh water from the *well*.

---

1. Tom grows strong; he is not *weak*.
2. Tom eats eggs three times a *week*.

---

1. Tom's *arm* hurts.
2. He will never *arm* himself for war.

- Let's discover the true meaning of similar words. From the list below, choose the right option to complete the following sentences. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

meet / accent / bye / accent / fine / incense / buy / meat / fine / incense



1. Huckleberry Finn would like to \_\_\_\_\_ his mother.
2. When Huckleberry Finn is hungry, he wants to have a decent dish of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Tom's pronunciation is not correct when the \_\_\_\_\_ falls on the first syllable.
4. He talks in a cute \_\_\_\_\_ from Missouri.
5. Finn is \_\_\_\_\_ when he plays with Tom.
6. Finn is not happy when he has to pay a \_\_\_\_\_ when his father breaks the law.
7. Becky's hair smells like sweet \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Tom does not \_\_\_\_\_ his aunt Polly when he is a good boy.
9. Becky and Tom go to the market together to \_\_\_\_\_ flowers for their mother and aunt.
10. Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer say good \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of the day.