

Class - VIISubject - English LiteratureChapter - I Tom Whitewashes a Fence

Good morning students

Today we will take up the story 'Tom Whitewashes a Fence' as a part of your first assignment of English Literature which will be submitted to you on dated 29th March, 2022. All the students are requested to open book page number ch-1 of your English Literature book titled 'New Trends in English Reader'. Students, keep your practice notebook ready as during this lesson you will be asked a few questions in order to check your understanding of the lesson.

Students, now pay attention as I am going to explain you the summary of the story 'Tom whitewashes a Fence'. This story is an extract from Mark Twain's novel entitled 'The Adventure of Tom Sawyer'. This story is about a boy, Tom who lives with his aunt. The chapter starts when appeared with a bucket of whitewash and a brush in his hand. On Saturday morning the day when all his companions were free to enjoy the Saturday morning but Tom had to whitewash a fence as he was given punishment by his Aunt Polly.

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Tom has come late at night after playing and fighting with other boys. When Aunt Polly sees the terrible state of his clothes and decides to turn his Saturday holiday into a day of hard labour! So Tom had to whitewash thirty yards broad and nine feet high fence on Saturday. Tom was feeling so sad when he thought of the fun he had planned for Saturday. But suddenly he got an excellent idea. He took up his brush and started painting the fence. When he saw Ben Rogers the free boy coming. He pretended that he was enjoying a lot his painting of the fence. Ben was eating an apple. He was standing near Tom but Tom paid no attention and pretended that he was an artist. When Ben saw him enjoying to whitewash the fence his curiosity increased and he pleaded Tom to let him whitewash the fence. Firstly Tom denied saying that Aunt Polly was very particular about it so he couldn't give his brush to anyone. Ben dropped his idea going for swimming and he pleaded again to let him do

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do just a little. Ben requested Tom to let him try and in exchange he would give him his apple. Tom took his apple and gave him the brush. Now, Tom was enjoying the apple and Ben had started painting the fence. Tom was eating apple and waiting for the other free boys to come and catch in his trap.

Students, now let us take a short break in order to check your understanding of the story. After listening to my questions you may

write your answers.

- Q1. From which book this story has been extracted.
- Q2. Who is Tom? Whom does he live with?
- Q3. Why was he punished?
- Q4. What work was assigned to Tom?
- Q5. Who came to meet him while he was painting?
- Q6. What did he plead to Tom?

Students, now we will continue with the story.

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While Ben worked and sweated in the sun, Tom was making plan to dupe the other boys. After Ben, Tom promised Billy Fisher to give the next chance for a kite and Johnny Miller bought the next chance for a dead rat and a string to swing it with.

By the middle of the afternoon, Tom had collected twelve marbles, a piece of blue bottle-glass to look through, a key that wouldn't unlock anything, a piece of chalk, a tin soldier, six fire crackers etc in exchange of giving the free boys a chance to whitewash the fence. Now the fence

had three coats of whitewash on it and it looked magnificent. Tom was feeling wonderful and he went home to report Aunt Polly. She didn't have faith on Tom. So she came out herself to see the fence.

She was surprised to see the fence. She praised Tom and took him home. She gave him the best apple she had and she also allowed Tom to go and play.

Alright students you have been given the summary of the

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Story 'Tom whitewashes a Fence'. Now you all are required to read the provided summary as well as the content given in the book and try to attempt exercises - 1, 2 in the book only and New words and exercise - 3 in your English Literature notebooks as a part of your home assignment. Students answers key will be provided to you on Thursday. Thank you.

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