

Wed  
wednesday

# Whitewashing the Fence

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- \* Vigor → active strength of force.
- \* Straitened → restricted; poor; insufficient
- \* Tranquilly → peacefully
- \* hove in sight → came to view
- \* dreading → fearing
- \* gait → way of walking
- \* anticipations → expectations
- \* whoop → call of joy
- \* personating → imitating
- \* ponderously → sluggishly; slowly
- \* starboard and larboard → (also called port) the nautical terms for left and right, respectively. Larboard is the left-hand side of or direction

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from a vessel, facing forward. Starboard is the right hand side, facing forward. The words starboard and broad get elided to starboard and larboard.

### Analysis

In this chapter, Tom reveals his basic knowledge of human psychology; that is, that a person most desires that cannot be easily attained.

Tom is also a fine ~~doe~~ actor, and he cleverly uses this ability in handling his friends. Thus,

Tom is able to use this basic understanding of human nature to get others do his work for him and to pay for the privilege of doing it. Instead

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of being able to join the others at the town center, he brings the center of the town to him, has others do this work for him, and he ends up with all sorts of treasures. In this way, Twain reveals Tom as a natural leader.

### Writing Junction

I am celebrating my birthday at my house, and I would be overjoyed to have you there to make the occasion more special and warm.

Date and time: July 18 2021 at 6 pm

Venue: 292, Kalyan Nagar, Bhubaneswar

Dress code: Pikachu theme

Hope to see you there soon.

RSVP 676798982

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## Get Going

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story

1) Let us find the answers from the

2) What task had Tom been given on Saturday morning.

Ans → Tom had been asked to whitewash 30 yards of board fence on Saturday morning.

3) How did Aunt Polly react when she saw Jim with Tom?

Ans → Aunt Polly was very angry and charged towards Jim and Tom with a slipper in her hands.

4) Describe Tom's state of mind before he had the 'inspiration'.

Ans → Tom almost lost hope and gave up the idea of buying the boys before he had an inspiration.

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5) Why was Tom dreading that his friends would see him whitewash?

Ans) Tom was dreading being seen whitewashing by his friends as they would jeer at him for being stuck with such a boring task while they were roaming freely.

6) How did Tom convince Ben that whitewashing was an important and interesting work?

Ans) Tom made it a point to go about whitewashing of the fence with a lot of enthusiasm and fondness that Ben came and he became interested in it. He further repeated that Aunt Polly had trusted him with the job as it was

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an important task, this was how Tom convinced Ben that whitewashing was important and interesting work.

A) 1) Fill in the blanks with words from the story.

a) Jim came out skipping with a tin pail in his hands.

b) Tom lured Jim by offering him his marble and offering to show him sore toe.

c) Ben Rogers was impersonating steamboat.

d) If Tom had not run out of whitewash he would have bankrupted every boy in the village.

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e) Work consists of whatever the body is obliged to do and play consists of whatever the ~~boy~~ body is not obliged to do.

B) Let us read between lines.

1) "... they came to jeer, but remained to whitewash." Explain the context of this sentence in your own words.

Ans → This means that Tom's friends came to make fun of him seeing him busy whitewashing but they themselves whitewashed the fence.

2) Write a brief description of Tom's character.

Ans → Tom is a naughty, but witty boy. He lives with his Aunt Polly. He loves to play and have

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fun. In the story Tom manages to lure his friends into doing the work that was assigned to him. This proves that he is also extremely shrewd. Not only does he convince them that whitewashing the fence is a pleasurable task but also collects many small rewards in exchange for letting them to do the task.

C) Let us go beyond the story.

1) Tom got his friends to whitewash for him.

Do you think what he did was justified? Would you have fallen for his tricks? Why?

Ans → Although Tom tricked his friends into doing



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the chore that was assigned to him, he doesn't use force while doing so. As he doesn't cause any harm to anyone in the process and merely used his intellect to get out of doing work, what he did can be justified. I too would have fallen for his tricks because Tom is very manipulative and gives undeniable offers.

2) Imagine you are Ben Rogers. you realise later that Tom made a fool out of you. What would you do? What would you say to Tom?

Ans → If I were Ben Rogers, I would be very angry. I would try to get back at Tom and make a

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fool out of him in some other way.

### Vocabulary function

Select the noun that can be used with all the  
three measure words.

1) a carton of, a bowl of, a scoop of

c) Ice cream

2) a pound of, a kilo, a joint of

b) Meat

3) a grain of, a patch of, a strip of

c) sand

4) a carton of, a gallon of, a litre of

a) Milk

5) a drop of, a bucket of, a glass of

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b) Water

## Pronunciation function

Fill in the table with words in which the given letters are silent. One word for each letter has been given for your reference.

t	castle	Whistle	Rustle	bustle
u	guess	guests	league	Ought
s	isle	Island	shropes	Illinois
l	Walk	Talk	Chalk	Calf
b	Dumb	Bomb	Climb	Thumb
g	Reign	foreign	sign	gnash
p	Receipt	Raspberry	Styatism	ptilopus
d	Wednesday	pledge	grudge	Ludge

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n	solemn	Timn	autumn	column
w	wrinkle	Wrestle	Wrist	Write
k	know	Knack	Knell	Knee

## Grammar Junction

1) Fill in the blanks with the correct degree of comparison.

a) The North Star shines brighter (brightly) than all the stars.

b) Two-wheelers are faster (fast) than four-wheelers.

c) I can speak Spanish more fluently (fluently) now than I did before joining the course.

d) The phone battery lasts longer (long) if you

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charge it regularly.

e) Samita visits the library more frequently  
(frequently) than the other students.

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