



ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL



Sub: English Text

Class: 5

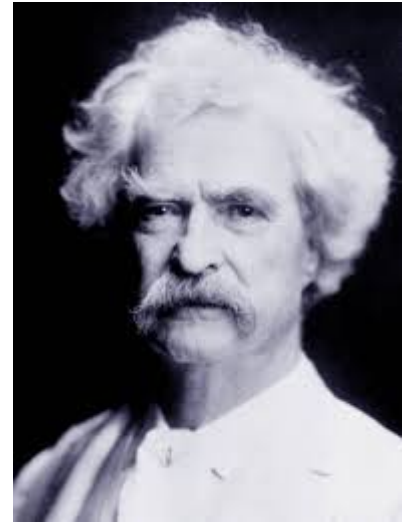
Date: 07/05/2020

Study Material

Chapter- Tom Sawyer – Poor Aunt Polly

About the Author : Mark Twain

Samuel Langhorne Clemens, known by his pen name Mark Twain, was an American writer, humorist, entrepreneur, publisher, and lecturer. He was lauded as the "greatest humorist [the United States] has produced", and William Faulkner called him "the father of American literature". His stories and novels are famous for their humor, vivid details, and memorable characters. His best-known works are *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, both classics in American literature.



Summary :

The novel opens with Aunt Polly scouring the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, "Look behind you!" and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects ruefully on Tom's mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime to help Aunt Polly's young slave, Jim, chop wood. Tom also wants to tell Jim about his adventures. During supper, Aunt Polly asks Tom leading questions to confirm her suspicion that he skipped school that afternoon and went swimming instead. Tom explains his wet hair by saying that he pumped water on his head and shows her that his collar is still sewn from the morning, which means that he couldn't have taken his shirt off to swim. Aunt Polly is satisfied, but Sid, Tom's brother, points out that the shirt thread, which was white in the morning, is now black. Tom has resewn the shirt himself to disguise his delinquency.

Tom goes out of the house furious with Sid, but he soon forgets his anger as he practices a new kind of whistling. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, his town, he encounters a

newcomer, a boy his own age who appears overdressed and arrogant. Tom and the new arrival exchange insults for a while and then begin wrestling. Tom overcomes his antagonist and eventually chases the newcomer all the way home.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirtied clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

A. Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. 'Tom was a mischievous little boy who lived with his mother's sister.'

a. Where did Tom live and with whom?

Ans. Tom lived with his Aunt Polly and brother Sid, in the Mississippi river town of St. Petersburg.

b. What kind of boy was Tom?

Ans. Tom was a naughty orphan boy who was very mischievous and loved playing pranks and tricks.

2. 'He was outside practicing his whistling when he saw a new boy walking ahead of him.'

a. Who is 'he' in the given extract?

Ans. In the given extract Tom is being referred to as 'he'.

b. Describe the new boy?

Ans. The new boy whom Tom saw was well dressed. His cap was fine, his close-fitting blue coat was new and so were his trousers. He also wore a necktie.

c. What happened after this?

Ans. Right after this, both Tom and the new boy started staring at each other then both got into a brawl as to who can beat the other.

3. 'Tom reached home very late that night and tried to climb in through the window.'

a. Why did Tom reach home late?

Ans. Tom reached home late because just before this he was having a fight with a new boy and ultimately Tom chased that new boy right up to his house.

b. Who was waiting for him?

Ans. Aunt Polly was waiting for him.

c. What did the person waiting for him decided to do?

Ans. Aunt Polly decided not to spare Tom from doing some real hard work the next morning.

Ms. Amrita Sofia Gomes