

SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS – *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

Chapters 1-4

1. How did Tom get out of being switched?
2. How did Aunt Polly catch Tom for playing hookey?
3. Why does Tom live with his Aunt Polly?
4. What did Tom do to the new boy?
5. What was Tom's Saturday job for punishment? How did he escape doing it? What did he do instead?
6. What was Tom's reward for whitewashing the fence?
7. Why didn't Aunt Polly belt Sid for breaking the sugar bowl?
8. What did a pupil get when he had ten yellow tickets?
9. How did Tom get his ten yellow tickets?
10. How was Tom's deceitfulness revealed?

Chapters 5-8

1. Why did Tom sit next to the aisle in church?
2. Why had Tom enjoyed this Sunday's sermon?
3. Why did Tom sometimes wish that there were no weekends?
4. Why was Tom the center of attention at school the next day?
5. Identify Huck Finn.
6. Why are dead cats good for, according to Tom?
7. Next to whom did Tom have to sit, and what did his note to her say?
8. What did Joe and Tom play with during the lessons?
9. What did Tom and Becky do at school during recess?
10. Why did Becky get mad at Tom?
11. What did Tom decide to be?
12. On what did Tom blame the unsuccessful marble spell?

Chapters 9-12

1. Identify Injun Joe, Muff Potter, and Dr. Robinson.
2. Why did Huck and Tom decide to keep mum about the graveyard incident?
3. How did Aunt Polly know that Tom had gone out in the middle of the night?
4. Why did the school master let out school?
5. How did Tom try to keep from talking in his sleep?
6. Why did Tom bring things to Muff Potter in jail?
7. Why did the villagers not tar and feather Injun Joe?
8. What happened to Peter the cat?

Chapters 13-16

1. Who joined Tom in his “life of crime”? And what were their pirate names?
2. Why was Huck suddenly disappointed about the state of his clothes?
3. Why couldn’t Tom and Joe get to sleep very easily?
4. How do the townspeople find drowned bodies in the river?
5. Why did the boys suddenly feel like heroes?
6. Where did Tom go that night?
7. What were Mrs. Harper and Aunt Polly saying about their boys?
8. What did Huck teach Tom and Joe to do? What happened to them?

Chapters 17-22

1. How did Becky react to Tom’s “death”?
2. What was one “poor chap’s” claim to fame?
3. Where did the boys hide during the funeral sermon?
4. What did Aunt Polly do to Tom and Huck upon their return?
5. What was Tom’s “dream”?
6. What did Tom do to anger Becky? Why?
7. What did Alfred do to Tom’s spelling book?
8. Why was Aunt Polly angry with Tom?
9. How did Aunt Polly know Tom was telling the truth about the bark?
10. What made Becky tear the teacher’s book?
11. What noble thing did Tom do?
12. How did the boys steal Mr. Dobbins’ wig? Why?

Chapters 23-28

1. Who did Muff Potter’s attorney call to the stand?
2. What did Tom tell the court?
3. How did the townspeople react to Tom’s telling on Injun Joe?
4. Why were Tom’s nights scary?
5. Who did Tom invite to go treasure hunting?
6. Why did Tom and Huck go back to the dead limb tree at midnight?
7. Why did the boys stop treasure hunting?
8. Who was the Spaniard?
9. Why were the boys distressed that they had left the spade and pick downstairs?
10. Why did Tom think that maybe the adventure was a dream?
11. What plan did Tom and Huck make for finding the real treasure?
12. How did Tom get in to the Number Two?
13. What scared Tom when he got into the Number Two?

Chapters 29-31

1. Against whom was the revenge job about which Injun Joe spoke?
2. Who saved the Widow Douglas?
3. What ended the search for the two men who were near Widow Douglas' house?
4. How did Tom and Becky get lost in the cave?
5. Why did Tom blow out Becky's candle?
6. Who else was in the cave at the same time as Becky and Tom?

Chapters 32-35

1. How were Becky and Tom saved?
2. What happened to Injun Joe?
3. Where was the real "Number Two"?
4. How much money was in the treasure?
5. How much money did Tom get every day?
6. How did Tom convince Huck to stay with the Widow Douglas?