

- 13 *Read the text **Isn't It Fun To Whitewash The Fence**¹? Answer the question: What idea did Tom once have?*

Isn't It Fun To Whitewash The Fence?

(from *The Adventures Of Tom Sawyer*
after Mark Twain)

Aunt Polly ['a:nt 'pɒli]
Ben Rogers ['ben 'rɒdʒəz]

Saturday morning came, the summer world was bright and fresh, and full of life.

Tom appeared with a bucket of whitewash² and a brush³. He looked at the fence and his face became sad. All the boys were playing, only he had to work. It was Aunt Polly's punishment for his dirty and torn clothes. The fence was long and high. Tom whitewashed it for some time, then sat down on a box, in despair⁴. He was afraid that if the boys saw him with a brush they could laugh at him.

Suddenly he had a bright idea. He took up his brush and began to work. Soon he saw Ben Rogers in the street. Ben was eating an apple. Tom went on whitewashing⁵ and did not look at him. Ben stopped near Tom and began to watch him.

"Hallo, boy!" said Ben. "Do you have to work today?"

"Why, it's you, Ben! I didn't see you."

"Say, I'm going swimming. Don't you want to come too? But of course you have to work, haven't you?"

¹ **to whitewash a fence** — красить, белить забор

² **bucket** ['bʌkɪt] **of whitewash** — ведро с побелкой

³ **brush** [brʌʃ] — кисть

⁴ **in despair** [dɪs'peɪə] — в отчаянии

⁵ **to go on whitewashing** — продолжать белить



Tom looked at Ben and said: “What do you call work?”

“Why, isn’t that work?”

Tom continued to whitewash, and answered:

“Well, perhaps it is work and perhaps it isn’t. All I know is Tom Sawyer likes it.”

“Oh, do you mean to say that you like it?”

The brush continued to move up and down.

“Like it? Well, I don’t see why not? Does a boy whitewash a fence every day?”

Ben stopped eating his apple. He watched every movement. He got more and more interested.

Then he said:

“Say, Tom, let me whitewash a little.”

Tom thought for a moment. “No, no, I can’t, Ben. You see, Aunt Polly asked me to do the work well, and I think there is only one boy in a thousand who can do it well.”

“Oh, is that so? Let me try, only a little.”

Tom was thinking.

“I can give you my apple.”

Tom gave him the brush. He was happy. And while Ben worked in the sun, Tom sat under a tree, ate his apple, and planned how to get more boys to do the work for him.

Many boys came to laugh at Tom, but very soon they all worked with pleasure. Each one had to give Tom something, and then he could whitewash the fence.

When afternoon came, Tom was a rich boy. He had twelve marbles¹, a piece of blue glass, a toy soldier, a kitten, a dog-collar², and many other things.

He had a good time, and the fence was ready very quickly.

Do You Understand The Story?

14 Choose the correct ending to each sentence.

- 1 When Tom looked at the fence, his face became sad because:
- the fence looked very dirty and old.
 - he understood he had to work much.
 - there was nobody to help him.

¹ **marbles** ['mɑ:blz] — стеклянные шарики (для детской игры)

² **dog-collar** ['kɒlə] — ошейник

- 2 Tom's friends whitewashed the fence because:
- they wanted to help Tom.
 - they were sure it was fun.
 - they could do the work better than Tom.
- 3 Tom was happy because:
- when afternoon came, he was a rich boy.
 - the boys did all the work for him very quickly.
 - the boys did not laugh at him.

15 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 Was it fun for Tom to whitewash the fence on a bright sunny day?
- 2 What did Tom's Aunt Polly punish him for?
- 3 What did he look like when he began to work?
- 4 Was Ben sorry for Tom at first? Why?
- 5 Why did Tom begin to work with interest?
- 6 What did Tom get when he let Ben whitewash the fence?
- 7 How did Tom become a rich boy?
- 8 Did Tom have a good time?

How Good Is Your English?

(see pp 52—53)

What Do You Think?

16 *Try and explain:*

- why Tom was pleased with himself and his bright idea;
- why Tom did not want his friends to know that he had to work and it was his aunt's punishment;
- why the boys worked with pleasure.



How Good Is Your English?



17 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1 You must at the party.
- 2 Think of your in class and at home.
- 3 It is a good to spend a weekend in the countryside.
- 4 Some parents are very with their children.
- 5 Who does most of the around the house?
- 6 I could tell from my brother's that he wasn't pleased.
- 7 It is not to say "Thank you" when somebody gives you something.

voice
rude
strict
behavior
idea
work
behave

18 Find the words which are opposite in meaning.

clean	slow
laugh	disappear
stop	happy
appear	continue
sad	dirty
quick	cry

19 Use the correct preposition.

- 1 There weren't many people the village street.
- 2 "Why are you laughing him, I wonder?" Kate asked.
- 3 "This is not a very strict punishment your rude behaviour," the parents said.
- 4 "It was a real pleasure to meet you," Ann said politely her guests.
- 5 "Where did you find this piece beautiful blue glass?" the boy asked.

for
at
to
of
in

20 a) Write *Past Indefinite* and *Present Perfect* for each of the verbs.

	Past Indefinite	Present Perfect
to go	went	have/has gone
to see		
to mean		
to think		
to ask		
to know		
to do		

b) *Past Indefinite? Present Perfect?* Choose the correct tense of the verb (✓).

- 1 “You (did, have done) your work so well and so quickly, Tom,” the boy’s aunt said. “I’m pleased with you.”
- 2 The boy (thought, has thought) for a moment, and then gave his brush to one of his friends.
- 3 “I (knew, have known) Bill for a long time. We are very old friends,” Tom said.
- 4 Aunt Polly (knew, has known) what Tom was going to do.