

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Chapter Four: Huckleberry Finn

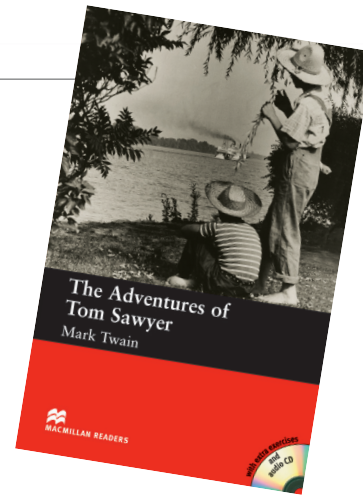
Author: Adrian Tennant
Level: Beginner - pre-intermediate
Age: Teenagers / adults
Time needed: Approximately 10 minutes per activity

Activity 1

- 1 Tell the students that you are going to play part of Chapter Four and that they should just listen.
- 2 Play the recording for Chapter Four from the start until, *And they had to go to school*. Then stop the recording.
- 3 Ask the students what the story was about and elicit – *Tom's two friends* (although if they say *Tom's friend Huck*, then that's OK).
- 4 Play the recording again.
- 5 Now put students in pairs and ask them to tell each other about one of their best friends.
- 6 Monitor and listen, but don't comment.
- 7 If you want, you could ask one or two students to tell the class about their own, or their partner's, friend.

Activity 2

- 1 Tell the students that they need a pen and paper and that they are going to do a dictation.
- 2 Explain that the students will be in control of the recording.
- 3 On the board draw the controls, i.e. << (rewind) □ (stop) > (play).
- 4 Tell the students that if they shout, *Stop*, you will stop the recording, if they say, *Rewind to 'X'*, you will rewind the recording to the point they ask and when they want you to play they should shout, *Play*.



- 5 Start from, *On Monday morning, Tom walked to school*. Decide how much of the recording you want the students to write (personally I'd stop at, 'Why?' asked Tom.)
- 6 Remind the students that they are in control and then start the recording and follow the procedure above.

Note: At first students might be reluctant to shout out, but they soon get into the activity.

Alternative procedure

You might want to read the text yourself rather than play the recording as it might be easier to control in terms of rewinding to certain points in the story.

Chapter Four: Huckleberry Finn

Transcript

Tom had two special friends in St Petersburg. Their names were Joe Harper and Huckleberry Finn. Huckleberry is a long name. Everybody called the boy 'Huck'.

Aunt Polly said to Tom, 'You must be a good boy, Tom.' And Joe's mother said to Joe, 'You must be a good boy, Joe.' They wanted the boys to behave well.

Huck Finn did not live with anybody. He had no mother or brothers or sisters. And he had no uncles or aunts. His father lived far away from St Petersburg. He was a bad man and he did not like Huck.

In good weather, Huck slept outside by the river. In bad weather, he slept inside a barn. He never went to church and he never went to school. Huck wore very old clothes and he did not wear any shoes. He never washed.

The other boys in St Petersburg liked Huck. They wanted to be Huck. They did not want to go to church. They did not want to go to school.

The mothers of the other boys in St Petersburg did not like Huck. Their sons had to go to church. And they had to go to school.

On Monday morning, Tom walked to school. Near the school, he met Huck. Tom was not happy. He did not like Monday mornings. Huck was very happy. He was carrying a dead cat.

'Hello, Huck,' said Tom.

'Hello, Tom,' said Huck.

'What have you got?' asked Tom.

'A dead cat,' said Huck.

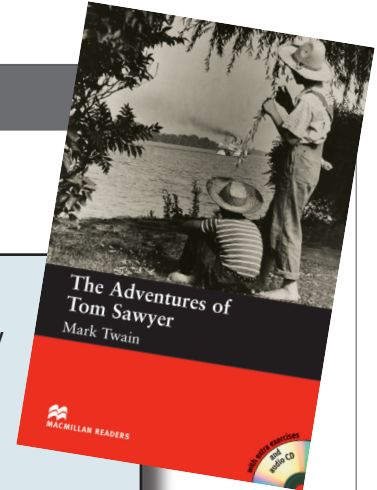
'Why?' asked Tom.

'A dead cat cures warts,' said Huck.

Tom looked at his hands and he looked at Huck's hands. 'We've both got warts,' he said. He pointed to the little hard bumps on Huck's fingers. He looked at his own fingers.

'How does a dead cat cure warts?' asked Tom.

'A bad man dies,' Huck replied. 'People take him to the graveyard. They bury him in the ground. That night, you take the dead cat to the graveyard. At midnight, ghosts come. They take away the dead man. The dead man has to follow the ghosts. The cat follows



Transcript

the dead man. And the warts follow the cat. So the cat cures your warts. It's easy!

'Let's go to the graveyard tonight,' said Tom. 'The minister is going to bury Hoss Williams today. Hoss was a bad man. The ghosts will come. Hoss will follow them.'

'Where shall we meet?'

'Come to my house at eleven o'clock,' said Tom. 'Make the noise of a cat and I'll come to the graveyard with you.'

'All right,' said Huck.

