

Advanced Placement in
English Literature and Composition

Individual Learning Packet

Teaching Unit

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

by Mark Twain

by Rita Truschel

Copyright © 2010 by Prestwick House Inc., P.O. Box 658, Clayton, DE 19938. 1-800-932-4593.
www.prestwickhouse.com Permission to copy this unit for classroom use is extended to purchaser for his or her
personal use. This material, in whole or part, may not be copied for resale.

ISBN 978-1-935465-49-2

Reorder No. 307112

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Objectives

By the end of this Unit, the student will be able to:

1. identify the conventions of satire.
2. examine theories of humor.
3. analyze the narrative arc including character development, setting, plot, conflict, exposition, narrative persona, and point of view.
4. identify and analyze the literary techniques of pace, in *medias res*, suspense, antagonist, dialect, internal monologue, aside, allusion, hyperbole, irony, parody, pathos, and sarcasm.
5. analyze the effect of word choice and sentence structure to express meaning, tone, and theme.
6. analyze themes of independence, education, lying, religion, social outcasts, and death.
7. offer a close reading of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and support interpretations and assertions using evidence from the text and knowledge of Mark Twain's biography and period history.
8. respond to multiple-choice questions similar to those that will appear on the Advanced Placement in English Literature and Composition Exam.
9. respond to writing prompts similar to those that will appear on the Advanced Placement in English Literature and Composition Exam.

Introductory Lecture

I. SATIRE

Satire is a literary form that uses wit, ridicule, contempt, and insult to expose human errors, foolishness, hypocrisy, and evil. The purpose of satire is social criticism. But satirical authors do not explicitly prescribe morals or solutions. Their subjects and style might be humorous, or not funny at all. Techniques such as caricature, comparison, exaggeration, irony, sarcasm, and parody lace these texts.

Famous examples of satire in English include Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* (1726) and *A Modest Proposal* (1729), and Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* (1961). Satire and parody are combined in the television cartoons *The Simpsons* and *Family Guy*, and the faux news of *The Onion*, *The Daily Show*, and *The Colbert Report*.

II. THEORIES OF HUMOR

One obvious definition of humor is what causes laughter. But it is also obvious that not all people consider the same things funny, or laugh only from happiness. Comedians and philosophers have identified other elements in humor as well. The Greek philosopher Plato detected pleasure, pain, and malice in the impulse to laugh.

Four principal theories are summarized by Aaron Smuts for the *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, hosted by the University of Tennessee at Martin (<http://www.iep.utm.edu/humor/>):

Superiority theory attributes laughter to the laugher's seeing others as ridiculous or inferior. Thomas Hobbes called laughter "sudden glory."

Relief theory suggests that laughter releases energy and tension, including repressed hostile and sexual feelings. Herbert Spencer and Sigmund Freud developed these ideas.

Incongruity theory argues that laughter responds to an expectation transformed into a surprise. Such humor arises from confusion, illogic, irrelevance, and inappropriateness. Immanuel Kant wrote that laughter is excited by the absurd.

Play theory sees humor as an evolutionary adaptation of animal instinct. This instinct shows itself as pleasure, disinterest in potentially serious situations, mock aggression, social bonding, and empathy.

Questions for Essay and Discussion

1. What distinguishes oral storytelling from written narrative?
2. Tom Sawyer's childhood adventures are predominantly a series of episodes. How does the author sustain interest and unify the story?
3. What does children's literature reveal about the social values of the society in which it was written? of societies in which it is read?
4. Mark Twain originally intended the novel to follow Tom Sawyer into adulthood. How might that have altered the story and its appeal to readers?

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Chapter 1

1. What is the effect of beginning this story with one word—"Tom!"

2. What are the characters like, and how do they relate to each other?

3. Who is telling this story? What are the advantages of this narrative point of view?

4. What is Twain's intention in violating conventions of standard written English? What effect does he create?

Chapter 10

1. Summarize Tom and Huck's dilemma after the murder.

2. Explain the irony of the boys' written vow.

3. What is the effect of the howling dog?

4. How is Tom's resolve tested? What choices does he make?

Chapter 20

1. How is Tom's new consciousness of the truth received?

2. How does Tom resolve the conflict between truth and lying?

Chapter 30

1. Contrast the adults' reactions and priorities to the children's.

Conclusion

1. Is this novel “strictly the history of a boy”? Why would the author make that claim?

2. Why would a novel about adults stop with a marriage?

The Perfect Balance Between Cost and Quality for Classic Paperbacks

WITH ALL OF THE DIFFERENT EDITIONS of classics available, what makes *Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Classics™* better?

Our editions were designed by former teachers with the needs of teachers and students in mind. Because we've struggled to stretch tight budgets and had to deal with the deficiencies of cheaply made paperbacks, we've produced high-quality trade editions at remarkably low prices. As a result, our editions have it all.

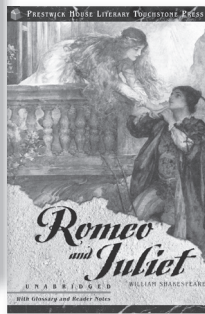
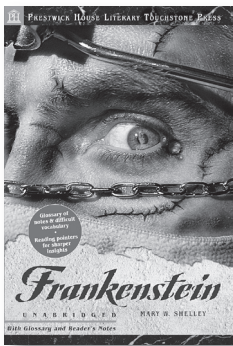
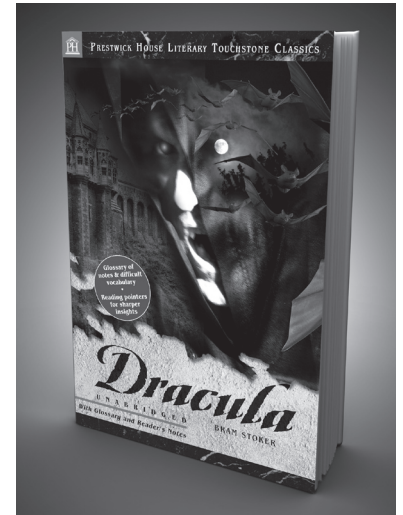
Value Pricing – With our extraordinary Educators' Discount, you get these books at **50% or more off the list price.**

Reading Pointers for Sharper Insights – Concise notes that encourage students to question and consider points of plot, theme, characterization, and style, etc.

Glossary and Vocabulary – An A-to-Z glossary makes sure that your students won't get lost in difficult allusions or archaic vocabulary and concepts.

Sturdy Bindings and High-Quality Paper – High-quality construction ensures these editions hold up to heavy, repeated use.

Strategies for Understanding Shakespeare – Each *Shakespeare Literary Touchstone Classic™* contains line numbers, margin notes, and a guide to understanding Shakespeare's language, as well as key strategies for getting the most from the plays.



Special Introductory Discount for Educators only – At Least 50% Off!

New titles are constantly being added; call or visit our website for current listing.

	Retail Price	Intro. Discount
200053..... <i>Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> - Twain TU RJ AT AP	\$4.99	\$2.49
200473..... <i>Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The</i> - Twain TU RJ AT	\$4.99	\$2.49
202116..... <i>Alice's Adventure in Wonderland</i> - Carroll TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
202118..... <i>Antigone</i> - Sophocles TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200141..... <i>Awakening, The</i> - Chopin TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
202111..... <i>Beowulf</i> - Roberts (ed.) TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
204866..... <i>Best of Poe, The: The Tell-Tale Heart, The Raven, The Cask of Amontillado, and 30 Others</i> - Poe	\$4.99	\$2.49
200150..... <i>Call of the Wild, The</i> - London TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200348..... <i>Canterbury Tales</i> - Chaucer TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200179..... <i>Christmas Carol, A</i> - Dickens TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
201198..... <i>Crime and Punishment</i> - Dostoyevsky TU	\$6.99	\$3.49
200694..... <i>Doll's House, A</i> - Ibsen TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200190..... <i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> - Stevenson TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99

202113..... <i>Dracula</i> - Stoker TU RJ	\$5.99	\$2.99
200166..... <i>Ethan Frome</i> - Wharton TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200054..... <i>Frankenstein</i> - Shelley TU RJ AT AP	\$4.99	\$1.99
202112..... <i>Great Expectations</i> - Dickens TU RJ AT AP	\$5.99	\$2.99
202108..... <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> - Swift TU	\$4.99	\$2.49
200091..... <i>Hamlet</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
200074..... <i>Heart of Darkness</i> - Conrad TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
202117..... <i>Hound of the Baskervilles, The</i> - Doyle TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200147..... <i>Importance of Being Earnest, The</i> - Wilde TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
301414..... <i>Invisible Man, The</i> - Wells TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
202115..... <i>Jane Eyre</i> - Brontë TU RJ	\$6.99	\$3.49
200146..... <i>Julius Caesar</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
201817..... <i>Jungle, The</i> - Sinclair TU RJ AT	\$5.99	\$2.99
200125..... <i>Macbeth</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
204864..... <i>Medea</i> - Euripides TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200133..... <i>Metamorphosis, The</i> - Kafka TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
200081..... <i>Midsummer Night's Dream, A</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
202123..... <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
301391..... <i>My Antonia</i> - Cather TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
200079..... <i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> - Douglass TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
301269..... <i>Odyssey, The</i> - Butler (trans.) TU RJ AT	\$4.99	\$2.49
200564..... <i>Oedipus Rex</i> - Sophocles TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200095..... <i>Othello</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT AP	\$3.99	\$1.99
202121..... <i>Picture of Dorian Gray, The</i> - Wilde TU RJ	\$4.99	\$2.49
200368..... <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> - Austen TU RJ AT	\$4.99	\$2.49
202114..... <i>Prince, The</i> - Machavelli TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200791..... <i>Pygmalion</i> - Shaw TU	\$3.99	\$1.99
200102..... <i>Red Badge of Courage, The</i> - Crane TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200193..... <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200132..... <i>Scarlet Letter, The</i> - Hawthorne TU AT AP	\$4.99	\$2.49
202119..... <i>Siddhartha</i> - Hesse TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
204863..... <i>Silas Marner</i> - Eliot TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
200251..... <i>Tale of Two Cities, A</i> - Dickens AT AP	\$5.99	\$2.99
200231..... <i>Taming of the Shrew, The</i> - Shakespeare TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
204865..... <i>Time Machine, The</i> - Wells TU RJ AT	\$3.99	\$1.99
202120..... <i>Treasure Island</i> - Stevenson TU RJ	\$4.99	\$2.49
301420..... <i>War of the Worlds</i> - Wells TU RJ	\$3.99	\$1.99
202122..... <i>Wuthering Heights</i> - Brontë TU AT	\$5.99	\$2.99

TU Teaching Units **RJ** Response Journals **AP** Activity Pack **AT** AP Teaching Units



PRESTWICK HOUSE, INC.

"Everything for the English Classroom!"



Order Form

Call 1-800-932-4593 Fax 1-888-718-9333

Prestwick House, Inc.
P.O. Box 658
Clayton, DE 19938

Bill To: Home School

Form fields for Billing To: School, Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone, Email.

Ship To: Home School

Form fields for Shipping To: School, Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Phone, Email.

Table with columns: ITEM NO, TITLE, QUANTITY, X, PRICE, =, TOTAL. Multiple rows for item entry.

Method of Payment (Choose one)
Check or Money Order Enclosed
Purchase Order Enclosed
Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card, American Express
Signature, Telephone #, Exp. Date, Credit Card #

Summary table: Subtotal \$, Shipping 12% S&H (\$6.00 minimum) \$, Total \$

Shipping & Handling
For orders of \$50.00 or less, please add \$6.00 for shipping and handling charges. For orders from \$50.01 to \$799.99 add 12% For orders of \$800.00 and more, add 10%

Delivery Service
Most orders are shipped FedEx and you can expect delivery within 7-10 working days. Items in stock are usually shipped within one working day of receiving your order.

Expedited Delivery
for expedited delivery ask about the following options:
Overnight Air
2nd day air
3 Day Select

Because charges for air delivery are based on weight and distance, heavy packages can be expensive to ship air freight. Typographic and photographic errors are subject to revision. Prestwick House is the sole source of all proprietary materials listed in this catalogue. Please be sure to include a street address. FedEx ground/UPS will not deliver to a P.O. Box.