



15. The Glorious Whitewasher

How do you get help when you have lot of work?

It was Saturday morning and all the summer world was bright and fresh. There was a song in every heart. There was cheerfulness in every face and a spring in every step. The blossoms filled the air. Cardiff Hill was green with vegetation.

Tom appeared on the side wall with a bucket of whitewash and a long handed brush. He surveyed the fence and all gladness left him. It



was a thirty yards broad fence, nine feet high. Sighing, he dipped his brush and padded it along the topmost plank; did it again. After repeating the job two or three times he sat on a tree log.



Why did Tom sit on a log after repeating the job two or three times?

Jim came skipping out at the gate with a tin pail; he was going to bring water from the town pump. Tom always hated this work to bring water from the town pump. He knew that Jim should come back after one or two hours. But Tom remembered that there was company at the pump. White and Negro boys and girls were always waiting their turns, resting, trading playthings, quarrelling and fighting.

Tom called Jim, "I will fetch the water if you will whitewash some." "Oh! No," said Jim.

"Jim, I'll give you a marble, even, I will show you my sore toe."

Jim was only human, this attraction was too much for him. He put down his pail, took the marble and bent down to see the sore toe. But lo! In a moment Tom was flying in the street with his pail.



What is meaning of 'flying' in the above sentence?

Tom was whitewashing, showing all his happiness. Little Ben was making noise with his toy- ting-a-ling-ling-ting-a-ling-ling-

Tom paid no attention. Ben went up to Tom with the apple he was eating. Tom's mouth watered for the apple. Ben said, "Hello! Hey! You are working."

Tom : Oh! It is you. Did not notice; which work you said?

Ben : That work.

Tom : Oh! That work, does a boy get a chance to whitewash a fence every day?

Ben : Let me do it.

Tom : No! No! It has to be done carefully.

Ben : Oh! Oh! I want to try, only a little, Tom.

Tom : Jim wanted to do it, but I did not allow

Ben : Oh! I want a little, Tom, take my apple, I will do it carefully.

Tom : Oh! Ok then, be careful.

He gave up the brush, took the apple, sat on the tree log, eating the apple peacefully.

There was no lack of material; boys came, requested him to whitewash paying a lot of their treasure.

Tom sold the chance of whitewashing to Billy Fisher for a kite, Johny Miller for a dead rat and a string to swing it with. By afternoon, Tom had the treasure of twelve marbles, part of a harp, a piece of blue bottle to look through a glass, a key that would not unlock anything, a tin soldier, a couple of tadpoles, six firecrackers, a kitten with only one eye, a brass doorknob, a dog collar - but no dog, the handle of a knife, four pieces of orange peel and a dilapidated old window frame.

He had a nice company, idle time, and the fence had three coats of whitewash on it.

The fence was whitewashed. Who did it?

Word Meanings

employee	a person who is paid to work
glorious	deserving to be famous, praised
cheerfulness	happiness
spring in every step	jumping while walking cheerfully
vegetation	plants
survey	to look at some thing carefully
glad	happy
yard	a measure of length = 3 feet
plank	long narrow wooden board
skip	jump
sigh	to take in or out long deep breath
trading	exchanging
sore	wound
fly	run very fast
lack of	a state of not having something
dilapidated	in bad condition

Reading Comprehension

A. Answer the following questions.

1. What was the name of the town?
2. What was the work allotted to Tom?
3. Where was Jim going?
4. Who were Tom’s friends?
5. What attracted Jim?
6. Make a list of five things collected by Tom from his friends.

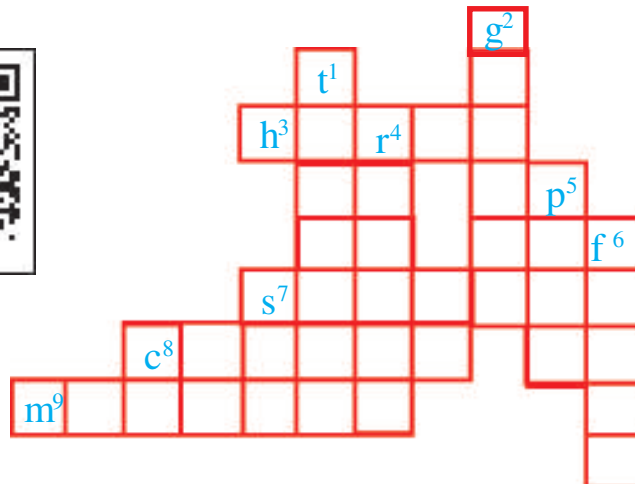
B. Tick (✓) the correct and cross (X) the wrong one.

1. Tom wanted to whitewash the wall. ()
2. Tom wanted to play with his friends. ()
3. Jim helped him to whitewash the wall. ()
4. Jim ate the apple. ()
5. Billy Fisher had a kite. ()
6. Ben had a sore toe. ()
7. The fence had three coats of whitewash. ()

Vocabulary

A. Pick out the things collected by Tom in the lesson. Write them down and complete the puzzle.

1. Young one of frog (7 letters)
2. You can see through it (5 letters)
3. A musical instrument (4 letters)
4. It was a dead (3 letters)
5. Not the oranges, but the (4 Letters)
6. Window (5 Letters)
7. It was a tin (7 Letters)
8. Some dogs have it (6 Letters)
9. He got twelve of it (7 Letters)



B. Match the words in column ‘A’ with their opposites in column ‘B’.

A	B
like	neglect
happiness	forget
remember	dislike
notice	careless
careful	sorrow

Grammar

A. Make a list of describing words occurring in the lesson.

Example: bright ----- -----
 ----- ----- -----
 ----- ----- -----

B. Add - ‘ness’ to the adjectives to form ‘nouns’. Add some more words.

Example: glad + ness = gladness
 happy, kind, polite, rich, good

C. Add - ‘ly’ to the adjectives to form ‘adverbs’. Add some more words.

Example: peaceful + ly = peacefully
 careful, truthful, graceful, beautiful, faithful, cheerful

D. Work in pairs and practise the following dialogues.

A	B
Do you like drinking milk?	Yes, I do. or No, I don’t.



Now make similar dialogues using phrases given in the box.

listening to music
 going on picnic
 eating sweets
 reading the newspaper
 singing songs
 playing football

E. Using clues in the box, make sentences similar to the one given in the example.

Example: (drink-milk-tea)
 I like drinking milk but I don’t like drinking tea.
 sing -old - folk songs.

go -zoo - museum
 take -tea - coffee
 read -comics -stories
 like - music -dancing

F. Work in pairs and make sentences similar to the example:

Sarita wants to do many things. Sarita's teacher gave her advice. Make sentences as in the example given below.

Example: If you work hard, you will pass the examination.



I want to

pass the examination
 win the match
 win the race
 be healthy
 stand first in class test

work hard
 play well
 run fast
 take milk daily
 learn well



If you---

Writing

Using the pictures given below complete the following story:



A ----- was sitting on a stump of a ----- . It was ----- happily. Suddenly ----- there. They saw the ----- on the ----- . They ----- on the ----- .The ----- away.

Activity

A. Below is given a list of activities that people generally do in their free time, but what people like to do also depends on their age, job, ways of life and many other things. Listen to your teacher and write the name of the person against the activity that suits him/her. Before you decide, listen carefully to the details about the person.

See Appendix 1, Lesson 15.

