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Chapter Two

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Name _____

Matching Terms and Definitions

Directions

Match each term on the left with its definition on right:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| ___1. Plot Line | a. The highest point of tension in a story |
| ___2. Exposition | b. A French term for <i>resolution</i> " |
| ___3. Rising Action | c. The overall structure of a story |
| ___4. Climax | d. The final result of all the action of a story |
| ___5. Falling Action | e. A hint about later action in a story |
| ___6. Resolution | f. The introduction of a story that lays out setting and some characters |
| ___7. Dénouement | g. The action that leads to the climax |
| ___8. Foreshadowing | h. The action following a climax |



Writing Note Cards

Directions

Imagine that you are writing a research paper on Mark Twain's boyhood. For your research, you read Twain's letters to Olivia Langdon, written while he was courting her. Read the following letter (this is not actually by Twain—I wrote it for this exercise), then make appropriate notes for your paper. Remember to confine yourself only to information you'll need for your topic.

My Dearest Olivia,

You say that you must know me much better before even considering marriage. I can understand that. While your goodness would be immediately apparent even to the blind, deaf, and dumb, one must dig underneath orneriness, rascality, and general contrariness to find it in me.

My great passion in life is for telling stories. It is true that if you do not like to hear a good tale, well spun (if I do say so myself), I would not be the man for you. I no doubt received this trait from my mother, who spent many an evening telling me the most delightful stories in the most engaging manner you can imagine. I will never be her equal.

In general, I'd have to say I take after my mother more than my father. He was a stern, unlikable man, about whom I have very few good memories. My mother was fun and a friend to everyone. Though I admit, I find a lot to dislike in most people, I still hope I am always more like her than like my father. I especially hope that will be true when I am a parent some day.

As you know, I now hope to be a writer—preferably, a famous and rich writer, as those are always the best kind. Also, I do not wish to die leaving my family burdened with a lot of debt as my father did when I was 11. But I did not always wish to be a writer. When I was a boy, I wanted nothing more than to be a steamboat captain, and I was for awhile. It was not quite as fun as my boyish imagination had pictured, but it was a pleasant time.

You may wonder about my social and political opinions. It is true that I was briefly in the Confederate army, but I don't like to speak of it. It was only a few months in any case. My family did not have much money when I was a boy, but we still had a slave. I liked all the slaves I knew and considered them my friends, but being a boy I never thought about their condition. Now, heaven be praised, slavery is abolished, and no better thing ever happened to this country. Some day I hope to write a book that can show people, especially children, how wrong slavery was.

I will write more soon. Please remember that my heart is yours.

Samuel



Name _____

Fact and Opinion

Directions

In the paragraph below, underline every factual statement once and every opinion twice.

Steamboats are large boats powered by steam and with a paddlewheel that propels the boat through the water. Long ago there were many steamboats on America's rivers, especially on the Mississippi River, but today there are very few. First railroads, then cars and trucks, replaced them. The steamboat used to be very important to America, but it is no longer. Nevertheless, it is still fun! I've even ridden on a steamboat once. If you're lucky, you'll get the opportunity to ride on one as well.



Name _____

Pronouns and Antecedents

Directions

Underline all personal pronouns in the story. Above each, write the noun it refers back to. The first two have been done for you.

The Lady or the Tiger

Once upon a time, there was a king who had some very odd ideas about justice. ^{King} He did not believe in a trial with a judge or jury, nor questioning of witnesses, nor examining evidence. Instead, ^{King} he devised what he thought was a perfect way to determine guilt or innocence and punish or reward it at the same time.

When a man was accused of a crime, he was put in the king's jail. The next day, the man would be brought to the king's arena. He would stand in the middle of this huge arena, surrounded by thousands of spectators in the seats, and the king and his family would watch from their thrones. The man would be presented with two doors. Behind one door was a tiger, and behind the other was a beautiful woman. The king believed that a guilty man would choose the door with the tiger, which would then be released into the arena and eat him. Innocent men would choose the door with the lady, and they would then be married. The spectators didn't much care—a battle against a tiger and a huge wedding were equally entertaining to them.

[Continued]



The king also had one daughter, a very beautiful princess, whom he guarded energetically against all suitors. Only someone very rich, powerful, and handsome would be his son-in-law. The princess did not agree though, and one day she noticed the court gardener. He was very handsome, though certainly not rich or powerful at all. He planted, trimmed, weeded, pruned, and did everything necessary to make the king's garden the most beautiful in the land.

The princess talked to the gardener every day. He showed her roses that smelled like cinnamon, orchids as big as her head, hyacinths with every color of the rainbow. She told him about her lessons in archery, fencing, and needlework. It was not long before they were in love.

Unfortunately, it was also not long before the king found out. He was enraged and had the gardener arrested. The princess was frantic. She pled with her father for his release, but he refused. So she decided on a different course of action. After questioning, bribing, and begging many courtiers, she finally discovered which door would hold the tiger and which would hold the lady the next day. She also got word to the gardener that she had done so and that she would give him a sign at the arena as to which door to choose.

The next day, the sun shown brightly as the princess sat on her throne looking down at the gardener in the arena. Because of who he was and the nature of his crime, everyone in the kingdom had come to see this trial. People crowded every aisle, and children sat on parents' laps. They ate, drank, and sang, waiting for the gardener to make his choice.

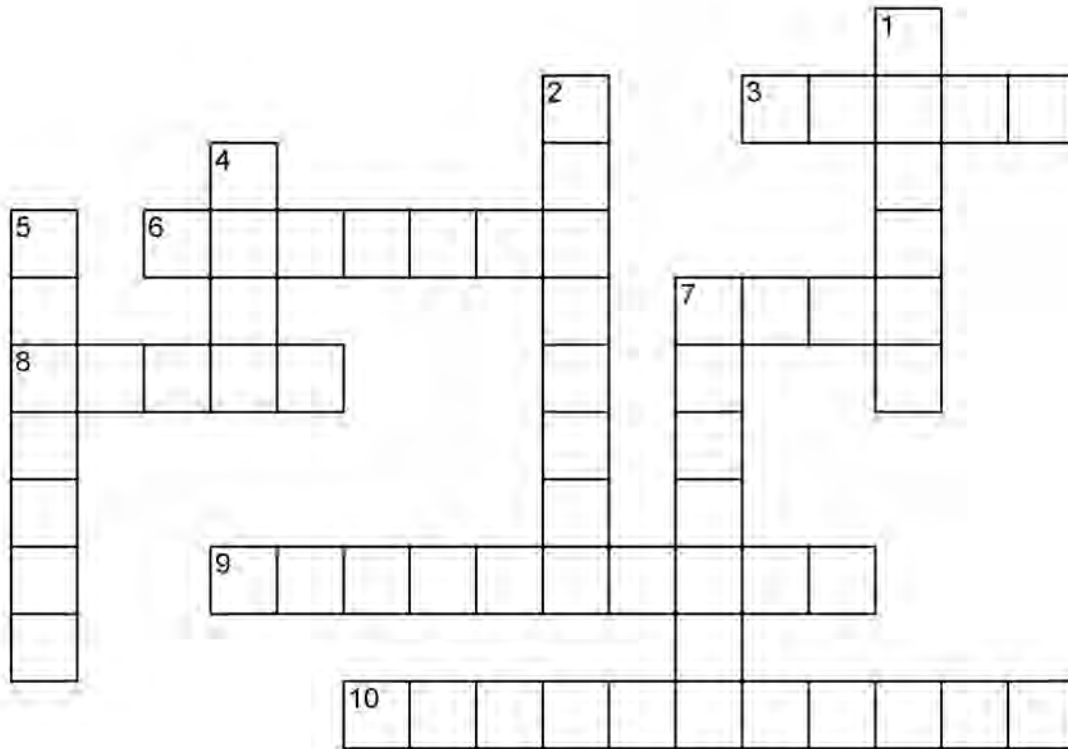
The princess also looked. She remembered all their talks together, all the walks through the garden, and her heart was full of longing for him. She could not bear the thought of seeing him mauled and eaten by the tiger. But neither could she bear the thought of him married to a beautiful woman, seeing the man she loved happy every day with someone else.

The gardener looked up at the princess. She looked down at him. Then ever so slightly she moved her right hand. The gardener smiled, walked forward, and opened the right-hand door. But did he meet the lady . . . or the tiger?



Name _____

Tom Sawyer Crossword Puzzle

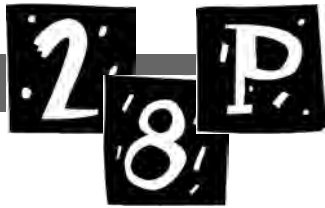


Across

- 3 Author of *Tom Sawyer*
- 6 Writing tool that can help you organize your story
- 7 Where Tom and Becky were trapped
- 8 Girl Tom likes
- 9 French term for *resolution*
- 10 River where part of this story takes place

Down

- 1 Twain's real first name
- 2 What Tom and Huck look for and eventually find
- 4 Tom's best friend
- 5 A smaller story that is part of a novel
- 7 Twain's real last name



Name _____

Tom Sawyer Word Search

Directions

Circle the words in the grid. When you are done, the beginning unused letters in the grid will spell out a quote by Mark Twain. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line. Words can go horizontally, vertically, and diagonally in all eight directions.

Y L L O P T N U A T O B E
E M I S S I S S I P P I L
E N H L I E V E Y E O E U
O R I U S E L F V B U R F
J N S L C A V A E M D I E
N I S U T K C T A O N T N
U A B E B U L S B R A R C
J W A V B P O E E F L E E
N T N E V L L X B N S A P
I G C L X L M O X E I S M
F K T L V M B B T T R U L
Y C L E M E N S Y K L R N
G Q R E H C T A H T F E Y

Aunt Polly
Becky
Cave
Clemens
Fence

Huckleberry
Injun Joe
Island
Mississippi
Outline

Samuel
Subplot
Thatcher
Treasure
Twain

