

Tom Sawyer

Reading portfolio

Observe, explain and test an interpretation

Tasks TS-01-A, B and C connect Tom's actions, Ben's responses and the narrator's commentary. They refer to Chapter 2 of the classroom edition.

SELECTED MATERIALS · INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH

Secondary education · English as the main language of schooling
Trial edition 1.3 · October 2026

Pages included

05 · Reading portfolio: pages 15, 16.

Original page numbers and references to the complete documents are retained. This selection does not replace the full teaching package. Source pages are reproduced unchanged; only this introductory page has been added.

Explore the complete teaching package

Access for a classroom trial is arranged individually with Edwin Zschaler. The website presents selected materials; timing and conditions of use are agreed when you make contact.

STAGE 1 · TS-01-A AND TS-01-B

Tom’s approach and Ben’s response

Work independently or with a partner, as agreed. Notes are enough. If a task has already been recorded in class, refer to that note instead of writing it again.

Examine Ch. 2, lines 81–124. Record three moves through which Tom changes Ben’s view of painting. For each, note: what does Tom do or say? How does Ben respond? How are these connected? Give a relevant line reference for each move.

Then write one connection as a sentence: Tom ...; this makes ... seem ... to Ben. Go beyond simply saying that Tom is clever.

Tom does / says	Ben responds	Connection + lines

One connection as a sentence

TS-01-B · What Ben sees and what we additionally learn

Read Ch. 2, lines 121–124. What does Tom show outwardly, and what does he feel? How do we know about this difference? Explain how it changes our view of the exchange.

My notes with references

STAGE 1 · TS-01-C · MY CORE ENTRY

Putting an explanation to the test

Text basis: Ch. 2, lines 81–124 and 143–147

In five to seven sentences, explain why Ben ends up paying to paint. Connect two moves from the scene with the narrator's claim in lines 143–147. Cite the passages. Add: does the commentary explain this scene convincingly? Does that mean its claim must always hold?

If you need help getting started

Begin with Ben's change: "At first ..., later" Then choose two moves by Tom. Reread the commentary: what does it explain about this particular scene?

My first draft

Quick check: Two moves; relevant references; connection to the commentary; limits of its claim.

Underline your claim, mark evidence with **B** and explanatory sentences with **E**. Use different marks; you do not need colours.

Preparation for A/B: independently / in pairs / together.

Additional support for my answer C: S / L / F / A / G. Meanings: p. 8.

Date

Still unsure about

Start small: First I connect one specific move by Tom with a relevant response from Ben. This is an initial partial step. The task above still applies to the full answer.

Keep your answer. You can use it later for your final product.