

ЛЕГКОЕ ЧТЕНИЕ НА АНГЛИЙСКОМ

Марк Твен

**ПРИКЛЮЧЕНИЯ
ТОМА СОЙЕРА**

Mark Twain

**THE ADVENTURES
OF TOM SAWYER**

*Адаптация текста, упражнения,
комментарии и словарь О.А. Кутуминой*



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В книгу вошел адаптированный и сокращенный текст романа Марка Твена «Приключения Тома Сойера». Предназначается для продолжающих изучать английский язык (уровень владения языком — Pre-Intermediate). Книга также содержит комментарии, словарь и упражнения.

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ПРЕДИСЛОВИЕ

Марк Твен написал свою знаменитую книгу о Томе Сойере и его друзьях в XIX веке, но и наши современники, живущие в XXI столетии, знакомы с изобретательным и веселым мальчишкой из деревни Санкт-Петербург, штат Миссури, если не по книге, то по экранизациям этого произведения.

Мы адаптировали роман «Приключения Тома Сойера» специально для русскоязычного читателя, стараясь сделать текст максимально доступным для тех, кто владеет английским языком на уровне *pre-intermediate*, то есть обладает словарным запасом около 1500 слов и знаком с основными видо-временными формами глагола. При адаптации, сокращая произведение, мы постарались сохранить оригинальный текст диалогов, изымая устаревшие или просторечные выражения.

В конце книги вы найдете небольшой словарь, в котором указаны именно те значения слов, в которых они употреблены в тексте. По-

сле каждого из разделов даются упражнения, которые облегчают понимание содержания, способствуют запоминанию слов и расширению словарного запаса.

Книга предназначена для школьников, студентов, слушателей языковых курсов, а также всех, кто, интересуясь английским языком, выбрал один из лучших способов совершенствования – чтение.

SECTION I

* * *

‘TOM!’

No answer.

‘TOM!’

No answer.

‘What’s happened with that boy, I wonder?
You TOM!’

No answer.

Aunt Polly looked everywhere, she even bent down, **poked under the bed with the broom**¹, and found nothing but the cat.

‘Y-o-u-u TOM!’

There was a slight noise behind her and she turned just in time to seize a small boy.

‘There! What have you been doing in the pantry?’

‘Nothing.’

¹ **poked under the bed with the broom** – пошарила под кроватью щеткой

‘Nothing! Look at your hands. And look at your mouth. What IS it?’

‘I don’t know, aunt.’

‘Well, I know. It’s jam – that’s what it is. I’ve told you forty times not to touch it. Where’s my switch?’

‘Wow! Look behind you, aunt!’

The old turned round, and Tom managed to run away from her – he climbed up the high fence, and disappeared over it.

His aunt Polly stood surprised a moment, and then laughed.

‘I can never learn anything! **He’s played the same trick enough for me to remember it¹!** **You can’t learn an old dog new tricks²** I’m sure he won’t go to school this afternoon, and I’ll just have to make him work, tomorrow, to punish him. It’s hard to make him work on Saturdays, when all the boys are having holiday. But he hates work more than he hates anything else, so I’ve GOT to find some job for him.’

Tom didn’t go to school, and he had a very good time.

¹ **He’s played the same trick enough for me to remember it** – он проделывал этот трюк со мной достаточно много раз, чтобы я могла его запомнить

² **You can’t learn an old dog new tricks** – Старую собаку новым фокусам не научишь (*пословица*, русский аналог: Горбатого могила исправит)

While the boy was eating his dinner, and stealing sugar when he had a chance Aunt Polly asked him difficult questions about his classes – she wanted to make him tell her the truth.

Tom was clever enough in his answers.

She wouldn't have learnt that Tom was lying but for Sid, his younger brother.

To make the long story short¹ Aunt Polly discovered the truth: Tom hadn't been to school and he had been swimming instead.

As soon as it became clear Tom went out at the door saying:

'Siddy, I'll beat you for that.'

Tom was not the model boy² of the village. He knew the model boy – Sid – and hated him sometimes.

Within two minutes, or even less, he had forgotten all his troubles because he found a new interesting activity – whistling. He had learned to whistle a couple of days ago and now he decided to practise it.

The summer evenings were long so he had a lot of time ahead.

Then he saw a stranger boy a little larger than himself. Meeting a new-comer of any age **of either sex**³ was an important in the poor lit-

¹ **to make the long story short** – короче говоря

² **model boy** – образцовый мальчик

³ **of either sex** – любого пола

the village of St. Petersburg. This boy was well dressed – on a week-day. He even had shoes on – and it was only Friday. You could see that he was a city boy. The more Tom stared at the stranger, the higher he turned up his nose. He could feel that his own clothes were old and poor. Neither of the boys spoke. If one moved, the other moved – but only to the side; so they were moving in a circle; **keeping face to face and eye to eye**¹ all the time.

Finally Tom started a usual dialogue. Each of the boys said he was going to beat the other one. And each said he had an elder brother who could also beat the other's elder brother.

Finally they fought.

They were rolling in the dirt, tearing each other's hair and clothes, **covering themselves with dust and glory**².

Tom won.

The new boy went off brushing the dust from his clothes, sobbing, and shouting what he would do to Tom the **'next time he caught him out'**³.

¹ **keeping face to face and eye to eye** – держались лицом к лицу, глаза в глаза друг с другом

² **covering themselves with dust and glory** – покрываюсь грязью и славой

³ **'next time he caught him out'** – когда его в следующий раз поймает

When Tom's turned to go, the new boy took a stone, threw it, hit him Tom between the shoulders and then ran away as fast as he could. Tom chased him home, and waited at the gate for some time, inviting the enemy to come outside. At last the enemy's mother appeared, and called Tom a bad, evil child.

Tom got home rather late that night, and when he climbed in through the window, he was caught by his aunt immediately. When she saw the state of his clothes she decided that Tom would not enjoy his Saturday.

* * *

Saturday morning came, and all the summer world was bright and fresh. There was a song in every heart and a smile on every face. But Tom was not very happy when he appeared in the street with a bucket of whitewash and a **long-handled brush**¹. When he looked at the fence, so long and high, he felt depressed.

Then he saw Jim, a slave boy, who was running out of the gate with a bucket. Tom himself had always hated bringing water from the town pump. But it seemed better than whitewashing. Tom said:

¹ **long-handled brush** – кисть с длинной ручкой

‘I say, Jim, I’ll bring the water if you white-wash a part of the fence.’

Jim shook his head and said:

‘I can’t, master Tom. Your aunt said you had to do it all. She’ll be angry if she learns that I helped you.’

When the boys noticed Aunt Polly coming out of the house Jim ran away with his bucket and Tom **got down to whitewashing**¹. But his energy did not last. He began to think of the fun he had planned for this day.

At this dark and hopeless moment he found a way out.

He took up his brush and went to work. Ben Rogers, his friend was walking along the street eating an apple. From time to time he produced melodious sounds: ding-dong-dong, ding-dong-dong, for **he was personating a steamboat**². As he came closer, he called:

‘Tom!’

No answer. Tom had been whitewashing, then he looked at the fence with the eye of an artist. Tom’s mouth watered for the apple, but he continued working. Ben said:

‘Hello, **old chap**³!’

Tom turned to Ben.

¹ **got down to whitewashing** – принялся красить

² **he was personating a steamboat** – изображал пароход

³ **old chap** – старина

‘Why, it’s you, Ben! I didn’t notice you.’

‘I’m going swimming. Would you like to join me? Oh, I see, you can’t go, you have to work!’

‘What do you call work?’

‘Why, isn’t **THAT** work?’

Tom continued his whitewashing, and answered carelessly:

‘Well, maybe it is, and maybe it isn’t. All I know, is, it suits Tom Sawyer.’

‘Don’t say you **LIKE** it. I won’t believe you!’

The brush continued to move.

‘Like it? Well, does a boy get a chance to whitewash a fence every day?’

That put the thing in a new light¹. Ben stopped biting his apple. He was getting more and more interested. At last he said:

‘Tom, let **ME** whitewash a little.’

‘If it was the back fence I wouldn’t mind and aunt Polly wouldn’t. But it’s the front fence; it must be done very carefully. There isn’t one boy in a thousand, maybe two thousand, that can do it the way it should be done.’

‘Oh, let me just try. Only just a little. I’ll give you **the core of my apple**².’

¹ **That put the thing in a new light** – дело предстало в новом свете

² **the core of my apple** – серединку от моего яблока

‘No, Ben, I’m afraid –’
‘I’ll give you ALL of it!’

Tom gave the brush to Ben and sat in the shade.

He didn’t have to work any more. Some other boys stopped by now and then; at first they joked but remained to whitewash. Billy Fisher bought his chance to whitewash for a kite, Johnny Miller – for a dead rat – and so on, and so on, hour after hour. And when the afternoon came, Tom who had been so poor in the morning, became a wealthy boy. **Besides the before mentioned things**¹, he had twelve marbles, a piece of blue bottle-glass to look through, a key that wouldn’t unlock anything, a tin soldier, a kitten with only one eye, the handle of a knife, and a lot of other valuable things.

He had had a nice, good, time, plenty of company – and the **fence had three coats of whitewash on it**²!

* * *

TOM came to the living-room which was their bedroom, breakfast-room, dining-room, and library at the same time, Aunt Polly was

¹ **Besides the before mentioned things** – кроме вышеуказанных предметов

² **fence had three coats of whitewash on it** – забор был покрашен в три слоя

sitting by an open window. She was sure that Tom had left long ago, and she was surprised at seeing him.

‘May I go and play now, aunt?’ he asked.

‘What, already? How much have you done?’

‘It’s all done, aunt.’

‘Tom, don’t lie to me – I hate it.’

Aunt Polly went out to see for herself. She **found the whole fence whitewashed thoroughly**¹.

She said:

‘So, you can work when you decide to do so, Tom.’ And then she added: ‘But you **seldom feel like working**². Well, you can go and play.’

She even gave him an apple as a reward.

Tom climbed over the fence and was gone. There was a gate, but usually he preferred to leave this way.

Tom went to the town square, where two “armies” were preparing for battle. Tom was the General of one of them. Tom and his best friend Joe Harper, commanding officer of the other army, ordered their soldiers to fight and then sat by the side chatting.

¹ **She found the whole fence whitewashed thoroughly** – она обнаружила, что весь забор тщательно побелен

² **seldom feel like working** – у тебя редко бывает желание работать