



The Prince and the Pauper

By Mark Twain

Teacher's Guide

By Mary Ellen Snodgrass

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Synopsis

Preface

Setting out to tell a tale that “could have happened,” Twain prefaces the escapades of Tom Canty and Edward VI of England with fond words: “It may be that the wise and the learned believed it in the old days; it may be that only the unlearned and the simple loved it and credited it.”

Chapter 1: The Birth of the Prince and the Pauper

Both Tom and Edward, examples of the extremes of social class in Tudor England, are born in London on the same autumn day in “the second quarter of the sixteenth century” (the historical Edward VI was born in October of 1537). The public acclaim of an heir to the Tudor throne held by Henry VIII contrasts markedly with the indifferent reception received by the son of paupers.

Chapter 2: Tom's Early Life

The Canty family live in poverty on the third floor of a rickety and crowded house in Offal Court, a filthy lower-class hive near London Bridge. The family consists of John, a vicious thief, and his equally vicious mother (Tom's grandmother), a beggar; John's wife, a kindly but downtrodden woman; and Tom's older twin sisters, Bet and Nan, who, though filthy and ignorant, are also kind and decent like their mother. One of the inhabitants of the tenement is Father Andrew, a kindly elderly priest, who secretly teaches the Canty children right and wrong; from Father Andrew, Tom learns reading, writing, and Latin. Though not thieves like John Canty, all the family are beggars; Tom does the minimum necessary to

sustain life, and is beaten regularly by his father and grandmother for coming home empty-handed. It is a miserable life marked by poverty, neglect, and abuse, but Tom is fairly happy. Everyone else in Offal Court is in the same boat, and his begging lifestyle leaves him with daily freedom to roam London and view its human pageant. Over time, fed on Father Andrew's stories, Tom develops an ambition to see royalty; he begins to escape more and more into a fantasy of royal life, and to play “court” with other children. He becomes so identified with his fantasy role that he begins to speak in an educated and measured manner, and the residents of Offal Court, old and young alike, come to him for advice.

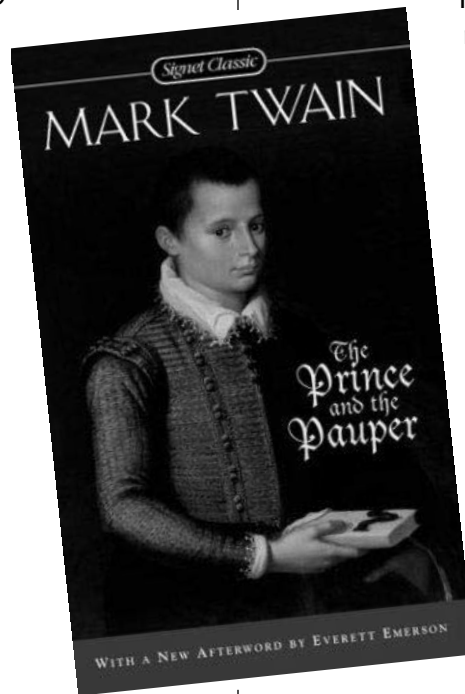
Chapter 3: Tom's Meeting with the Prince

An unforeseen meeting with destiny—in the person of Edward, Prince of Wales—results in Tom's apprehension by palace guards and his rescue by the prince himself. The two boys compare homes, families, and activities before changing clothes and identities. The remarkable

resemblance escapes royal attendants, who eject Edward into the street, where his cries of outrage earn a chorus of horse laughs from onlookers.

Chapter 4: The Prince's Troubles Begin

Edward wanders away into the slums of London, eventually making his way to Offal Court, where he is mocked by a group of street boys when he commands them to respect his royal person. He is subsequently spotted by John Canty, who accosts him. Recognizing John as Tom's father, Edward begs the man to save him. John Canty concludes that the boy has lost his mind, but that this shouldn't preclude a good beating. He hauls him indoors.



Chapter 5: Tom as a Patrician

Meanwhile, Tom is alone in Edward's chambers, prancing in front of the mirror in his new finery and generally enjoying his masquerade. Gradually it begins to dawn on him that Edward is long in returning, and unease soon gives way to outright terror that he will be found out and put to death for impersonating the prince. He frightens a serving girl by kneeling in front of her and begging for mercy. News that the prince has gone mad spreads through the palace like wildfire, finally making its way to King Henry, who forbids such talk on pain of death. Tom makes his way to the king's chambers, where he is questioned by the king in the presence of the court physician and various nobles. Henry, the fearsome tyrant, turns out to be a kindly and indulgent father, and he is befuddled by Tom's evident terror and insistence that he is but a poor beggar. However, on questioning, he determines that Tom is literate and still knows his Latin, which leads him to believe the boy is only temporarily deranged, not permanently damaged. Tom is dismissed into the care of Edward's primary handler, the Earl of Hertford. Tom realizes that he is a prisoner in a gilded cage.

Chapter 6: Tom Receives Instructions

Tom is conducted to a chamber full of noblemen and told to be seated; the idea of sitting down while his elders and "betters" stand makes him uncomfortable, and he begs them to sit as well. They refuse, and he desists once the Earl of Hertford quietly explains to him that they are not permitted to sit in his presence. The nobles are dismissed, leaving only Hertford and Lord St. John, who tell him the king has proclaimed that nobody is to speak of his "malady," and that he is to try to remember his princely life, and in the meantime to pretend he does remember; only Hertford and St. John are in on the ruse. The ladies Elizabeth and Jane Grey are announced, and their sympathy and kindness both put Tom at ease and spark a new resolve to play the prince as best he can. After the ladies are dismissed and Tom retires to rest before a banquet, St. John and Hertford discuss the would-be prince. They are troubled by the evidence of his madness, and St. John suggests that the boy's mannerisms seem different as well, for

which he receives a sharp rebuke from Hertford and a warning never again to speak or even think such treason. St. John apologizes profusely and departs, leaving Hertford—who privately holds the same misgivings as St. John—pacing the chamber, talking to himself. Hertford convinces himself that the boy really is the prince, gone mad—after all, a real imposter would claim that he *was* the prince, not insist that he wasn't.

Chapter 7: Tom's First Royal Dinner

Tom eats his first dinner as a prince, discovering that the process of dining is complicated by the presence of a servant for seemingly every action, from putting a napkin around his neck (the job of the Diaperer of the Prince of Wales) to checking for poison (the Taster's job). A tense moment ensues when Tom has a tremendous itch on his nose, and discovers that of his nearly 400 servant, there is none to do the critical job of nose-scratching. Everyone studiously ignores Tom's odd behavior, and they are grieved by the evidence of the beloved prince's madness. After the dinner, Tom retires to the prince's room and devours a book on court etiquette he finds in a closet.

Chapter 8: The Great Seal

Meanwhile, the dying king is nevertheless exultant that he has now engineered the conviction of the Duke of Norfolk (whose power is a threat to Edward) on charges of treason. He looks forward to giving Parliament the execution order in person, but realizes that his ill-health will prevent him from doing so. Instead, Henry needs to give the Royal Seal to the Lord Chamberlain to verify that the order is official, but Hertford reminds the king that he recently gave it to his son for safekeeping. When "Edward" can't remember where the seal is, Henry is moved to pity for his son (though still brutal to everyone else), and orders the Chamberlain to make do with the small Seal in the treasury instead. The Chamberlain hurries off, with instructions not to return without Norfolk's head.

Chapter 9: The River Pageant

A vast pageant takes place at 9 o'clock that night on the riverfront of the palace. Nobles and foreign dignitaries come to pay homage to Edward, the future king of England, while commoners strain to

watch from a greater distance. Torches and lanterns blaze, and there is much color. The rich dress of the nobles and of Tom Canty, the faux Edward, are described in great detail; silks, velvets, fur, jewels, and precious metals abound. At the pageant's ultimate moment, Tom, sumptuously dressed, appears on the balcony and bows his princely head to the cheering crowd.

Chapter 10: The Prince in the Toils

Meanwhile, back in Offal Court, the real Edward is being dragged through the gathered rabble by John Canty. As Edward continues to insist he is the prince, Canty loses patience and tries to hit him with an oak cudgel, but a lone sympathetic bystander intervenes and takes the blow to the head instead. Heedless of the harm he has caused, Canty drags Edward into the house, where he and the grandmother mock and beat the boy while his cowed but loving mother and sisters try futilely to intervene, receiving beatings themselves. His mother is heartbroken at her son's apparent madness, but realizes that the boy seems different, and devises a test to determine if he is indeed Tom: remembering that Tom habitually shields his eyes with his hand when startled, she wakes Edward from a sound sleep to test his identity, and of course he fails to shield his eyes. Now she is miserable because she cannot "give up" her precious son. Her musings are interrupted by a knock on the door: the man John Canty hit was the priest, Father Andrew, who is now dead. The Canty family leave the apartment in haste, running to avoid John's arrest for murder. They exit Offal Court to find a throng of drunken revelers crowded along the river, having a holiday in honor of the Prince of Wales (it is the night after the river pageant). The family members are separated, and Edward escapes John Canty. Edward realizes that the "prince" being celebrated is actually Tom Canty, and decides he will have the usurper hanged, drawn, and quartered for impersonating him.

Chapter 11: At Guildhall

Tom Canty is lost in wonder at the spectacle of the pageant and subsequent royal banquet. Meanwhile, Edward has made his way to the gates of the Guildhall, where he loudly proclaims himself

the true king, to the cruel taunts of a crowd of onlookers. He is rescued from a beating by the noble yet tattered knight Miles Hendon, and the crowd's attack is further disrupted when royal messengers ride up and proclaim that King Henry is dead. Meanwhile, back at the banquet, all present bow down to Tom, the supposed new king. Realizing his word is law, with shining eyes he makes his first royal decree: the Duke of Norfolk is pardoned, marking an end to the "law of blood" and the beginning of a new "law of mercy."

Chapter 12: The Prince and His Deliverer

Edward feels overwhelming emotions—alternately sorrowful and thrilled—as he hears the news of his beloved father's death and his own ascension to the throne. He and Miles make their way through the streets toward Miles' lodgings on London Bridge. On the bridge, they are accosted by John Canty, who tries to snatch Edward but is driven off by Miles. In Miles' modest room, Edward falls asleep in the only bed. Miles, though believing Edward to be delusional, nevertheless admires the boy's bravery and innate nobility, and vows to protect him. He uses his own doublet to cover the sleeping boy in the cold room, and talks to himself as he walks up and down to keep warm, making plans: he will return home and claim his ancestral lands after seven years of foreign imprisonment as a captured soldier; his kindly father and brother Arthur, if they are alive, will gladly take care of the boy, although he must beware of the younger brother, Hugh. A servant brings food, and Miles is amused to humor Edward in his "delusion" that he is king by waiting on the boy himself.

After eating, Edward demands Miles' story. Miles relates that, in a bid to steal the hand of his beloved cousin, Edith, Hugh falsely accused Miles and persuaded his father to exile him into the army for three years. At the end of his service, he was captured and held captive, and so has spent the last seven years away from home. His father is a wealthy baronet in Kent. Outraged at this injustice and touched by Miles' kindness, Edward asks Miles to name a reward from his king. After a moment's thought, Miles requests the privilege, for himself and his descendents, to be able to sit in

the king's presence. With great solemnity, Edward grants the request, and Miles, filled with relief (since his legs ache), sinks into a chair. He thinks privately to himself that he is now knight of the Kingdom of Dreams and Shadows. He vows to nurse the boy back to mental health, and to take care of him.

Chapter 13: The Disappearance of the Prince

After eating, the two fall asleep, Edward once again on the bed, and Miles on the floor in front of the door. In the morning, Miles measures the sleeping boy with a string and sets out to buy him a set of warm secondhand clothes and some shoes. He returns to mend the clothes and present them to Edward, only to find him missing. On investigating, Miles discovers from a servant that a messenger boy had been sent, ostensibly from Miles himself, with a request to meet Edward on the Southwark end of the bridge. It is apparent from the story that John Canty tricked the boy to lure him out of the hotel. Miles rushes off to save Edward, heartened by the realization that the boy left the room because he thought Miles requested it. Miles is convinced that if the boy escapes his captors, he will head to the Hendon home in Kent.

Chapter 14: *Le Roi Est Mort—Vive le Roi!*

Tom Canty is wakened from pleasant dreams into the dreary reality of his gilded captivity. After a lengthy process in which he is bathed, clothed, and fed breakfast, Tom is taken to the throne room to transact state business, Lord Hertford at his side to "remind" him of things as necessary. Many aspects of the proceedings are puzzling, but Tom generally acquits himself well. Tom learns that he will soon start dining in public to reassure the populace that he is sane, and he learns much about the business of running the kingdom. In particular, his encounter with the royal whipping boy proves useful: Tom is stunned that there is a servant whose sole purpose is to take his punishments (since it is unlawful to strike the prince outright), and even more stunned when the whipping boy begs to be retained in his post, fearing loss of livelihood. Tom eases his mind by declaring his position hereditary, and uses the opportunity to pump the garrulous boy, Humphrey, for information, in the guise of being "reminded." He decides

to talk with Humphrey as much as possible, since he's such a valuable source of news and "reminders" about royal behavior. Tom makes good use of what he's learned from Humphrey, and Lord Hertford is subsequently greatly encouraged that the "king" is regaining his memory. However, Hertford's attempts to find the location of the Great Seal from the boy lead to disappointment.

Chapter 15: Tom as King

The next few days of Tom's "kingship" are taken up with matters of state, including visits by foreign dignitaries. In the main, Tom finds all these kingly duties boring and confining, although he begins to feel more comfortable in his new role. He dreads the fourth day, however, because on it he will be required to dine alone in front of strangers to demonstrate his health and sanity. As he waits for a diplomatic visit that day, he spies, from the window, an unruly mob passing by in the street; they turn out to be condemned prisoners being taken to the executioner, and he has them brought to him for questioning. There are three, all of them clearly falsely accused: a man convicted of poisoning, and a woman and her nine-year-old daughter, charged with witchcraft. Tom recognizes the man as one who saved a drowning boy from the icy Thames on a certain day in January, which turns out to be the day of the poisoning, proving to Tom that the man is innocent since he could not be in two places at once. Tom pardons him, and also abolishes the horrifying practice of boiling in oil for poisoners. He similarly questions the woman and her daughter, and discovers that they lost everything they had in a storm allegedly caused by selling their souls to the devil; he pardons them as well, reasoning that if they had actually committed the crime, they would have been spared the storm. Through it all, the observing nobles are encouraged and relieved by the boy's mercy, wit, and wisdom, evidence that his "madness" is cured.

Chapter 16: The State Dinner

The dreaded hour of dining arrives, but Tom is no longer very afraid, his confidence boosted by the incident with the pardoned prisoners. He is becoming used to his role rapidly, as only a child could. He makes it through the elaborate dinner—in which he is waited upon by dozens of atten-

dants, and during which hundreds are watching him—without a misstep.

Chapter 17: Foo-Foo the First

Miles searches for Edward in Southwark, but the trail is lost. Meanwhile, John Canty—now going by the name “John Hobbs”—takes Edward to a hide-out in the woods where a gang of about twenty-five criminals and displaced persons are making camp. Realizing the boy truly believes himself to be king, Canty is uncharacteristically gentle with him, at least at first. After a while, Edward wanders away to a corner of a shed where the gang is staying, and falls asleep crying for his true father, Henry VIII. In the night, Edward awakes to find the entire crew gathered around a bonfire, carousing. He listens as Canty inquires about its missing members. What follow are horrifying tales of the injustice and cruelty of the English legal system. Edward is moved to special indignation and pity by the story of a former farmer turned off his land and forced, with his wife, to beg, ultimately losing his family to starvation and other cruelties, and having his own ears cut off as punishment for the “crime” of begging. The boy impulsively rises up and vows that he will stop such cruel “justice” in the future. However, rather than being grateful, the assembled ruffians mock the boy cruelly, even though Canty explains his “madness” and the “Ruffler,” the gang’s leader, attempts to intervene. Tears of anger and shame run down Edward’s cheeks as the group crown him with a tin pot, throne him on a barrel, and make their petitions to “Foo-Foo the First, king of the Mooncalves.”

Chapter 18: The Prince and the Tramps

The gang set out on foot along the highway, stealing from various farmsteads along the way. The intimidated farm folk don’t protest, fearing worse mistreatment. Around noon, the group arrive at a prosperous village. The Ruffler has ordered Canty to stay away from Edward, who has been assigned to partner with Hugo, a swindler and thief. Edward refuses to beg or steal, so Hugo tries to get him to act as lookout. When a kindly gentleman passes by, Hugo pretends to be injured, but Edward loudly informs the man that Hugo is cheating him. Hugo runs, the man gives chase, and Edward takes

the opportunity to escape his captors. He runs a long time and, with huge relief, realizes he is finally free. That night, he sleeps in a barn, covering himself with old horse blankets and snuggling up to a calf for warmth. There he sleeps as well as he ever did in the palace.

Chapter 19: The Prince with the Peasants

Edward awakes in the morning to discover a rat sleeping on his chest for warmth. As the creature scampers away, Edward tells it not to worry: he has a newfound affinity for helpless creatures, and appreciates the good omen the rat represents—since surely, if rats are now using him as bedding, he has sunk so low that he can only go up from here. After a time, two little girls find him; he tells them he is the king, and they innocently accept his story, to his vast relief. They take him home to their mother, a kindly widow, who tries to discover what he did in life before his “reason went astray,” finally deciding he must have been a servant in the palace. He performs various household tasks for the woman, with varying success, reminding himself that the fabled King Alfred the Great had once been required to perform kitchen duty as well. At breakfast, Edward and the widow both feel secretly magnanimous: Edward because he has deigned to eat at the table with the family instead of requiring them to wait upon him, the woman because she has allowed the young tramp to eat the family’s food at the table instead of eating crusts in a corner as befits his station. Later, Edward sneaks out the back way after seeing John Canty and Hugo coming up the walk.

Chapter 20: The Prince and the Hermit

Edward runs away toward a distant wood, where he travels until he comes to the house of a hermit. At first the boy king is happy to have found the man of God, but he soon realizes the hermit is insane (he thinks he’s an archangel). Nevertheless, the man feeds Edward and tends his injuries, and all goes well until Edward reveals that he is the son of Henry VIII. The hermit, unlike the other adults he has encountered, believes Edward. This is unfortunate, because Henry’s abolition of the Roman Catholic Church (which included closing the monasteries and appropriating their wealth), is the

reason the hermit is “houseless and homeless.” Edward has fallen asleep before the hermit’s diatribe is well underway, and so is unaware of the man’s hatred. The hermit quickly binds the sleeping boy in rags.

Chapter 21: Hendon to the Rescue

Edward awakes to find himself tied up (even his jaw is bound shut) and staring at the hermit’s sharp knife. Just before the hermit deals the death blow, a knock is heard at the door; it is Miles Hendon, searching for the young king! He has caught up with some of the Ruffler’s gang and forced them to tell him what they know about the boy. Edward is joyful, but his joy disappears when the hermit craftily steers Miles deeper into the forest, preventing his discovery of the boy. However, the day is saved, ironically, by Hugo and John Canty, who break into the hermit’s cottage from the back while the hermit is leading Miles away. They grab Edward and run off.

Chapter 22: A Victim of Treachery

Edward spends the next several days with the gang. Although they continue to mock “Foo-Foo the First,” all except Canty and Hugo like him and treat him well. These two torment him when the Ruffler’s back is turned. One night, after Edward defends himself from Hugo’s attack by beating him in a fight with cudgels (Edward being an excellent fighter, having been trained by the best sword masters in England), the gang hoist him on their shoulders and redub him “King of the Gamecocks”—a term of admiration and honor. Hugo slinks away to secretly plan his revenge. Several days later, Hugo is partnered with Edward in a village; their job is to steal, but Edward again refuses. Hugo frames Edward for thievery, making it appear that the boy has stolen a pig from a goodwife, then leaves Edward to face an angry crowd on his own. At that moment, however, Miles Hendon appears, once again rescuing Edward.

Chapter 23: The Prince a Prisoner

The constable is called and Edward is brought before the justice of the peace; with great difficulty, he heeds Miles’ advice to keep his mouth shut during the proceedings. It is the goodwife’s word against the apparent beggar boy’s, and Edward is

swiftly convicted of stealing a pig. When the justice asks the woman the pig’s value, she says it cost three shillings and eight pence, an answer that appears to trouble the justice and causes Miles to break out in a cold sweat. The justice clears the courtroom, then informs the woman that according to English law, anyone convicted of stealing something worth more than thirteen pence ha’penny must hang for his crime. Edward is once again shocked by the harshness of English law; and the soft-hearted woman, aghast at the idea of sending the boy to his death, takes the hint from the judge and revises the pig’s price downward to eight pence, to Miles’ great joy. A few moments later, Miles overhears the constable, in the hall, trying to extort the pig from the woman for the ridiculously low price of eight pence; if she refuses, he says, he’ll return Edward to hang and have her charged with lying under oath. Defeated, the crying woman leaves without her pig. Subsequently, the kindly justice of the peace (unaware of the constable’s crime) gives Edward a lecture, then sentences him to a short jail term followed by a public flogging—a mercifully light sentence.

Chapter 24: The Escape

The constable arrives in the deserted market square to collect Edward and take him to jail. However, Miles blackmails him into letting the boy escape, threatening to expose the pig incident and throwing in a few random Latin phrases to terrify the ignorant constable with his supposed legal knowledge. After making the constable promise to return the woman’s pig, Miles leaves with Edward.

Chapter 25: Hendon Hall

Miles and Edward ride to Hendon Hall, Edward now clad in the secondhand clothes Miles purchased for him in London. Miles is full of joy, anticipating a reunion with his beloved father and older brother, Arthur, and especially with his betrothed, the lady Edith. A terrible surprise awaits him, however; his father and Arthur are dead, and his evil younger brother, Hugh, pretends not to know him and labels him a madman, claiming he received a letter telling him that Miles died in battle. The lady Edith—plainly under duress—claims not to recognize him either, and the remaining five servants, all

of whom Miles remembers as dishonest, likewise profess not to know him. (Hugh has apparently fired the many honorable servants who once worked at Hendon Hall.) Miles realizes his birthright has been stolen, and he attacks Hugh, who orders his servants to capture Miles. However, the five unarmed men are daunted by Miles' sword and remembered fighting prowess. Finally, they depart after threatening Miles, leaving him alone with the boy king. Edward believes Miles' tale of stolen heritage, but astutely recognizes that Miles does not believe *his* claim to be the king.

Chapter 26: Disowned

The king ponders the irony of his and Miles' parallel situations, and wonders why nobody has come looking for him, the rightful heir to the throne. The lady Edith returns to the room and tries to persuade Miles that Hugh is a tyrant who will have him killed for suggesting he is Hugh's brother. Her sad eyes and strong words paint a picture of a cruel, greedy, and powerful man who will stop at nothing to get what he wants. Although she steadfastly claims not to know Miles, she clearly wants him to escape. Miles refuses both her warnings and the money she tries to give him. He stays, and is overpowered by returning officers and led away to prison with Edward.

Chapter 27: In Prison

Miles and Edward are thrown into the squalid prison, where for a week they endure aching monotony punctuated by the drunken carousing of their nearly two dozen fellow inmates. Miles concludes that Edith recognized him but lied to protect herself. After several abusive visits from Hugh's minions, Miles is happy to see a former servant of his father's, Blake Andrews. For the benefit of the jailer, Blake pretends to berate Miles, but when they are alone he confesses that he recognized Miles from the start. He is a loyal servant who loves Miles and is willing to risk everything to proclaim him the true heir. Miles won't allow this, however, knowing that Hugh will have the old man killed. Instead, Blake comes regularly to "abuse" the two prisoners, secretly smuggling in decent food and news from the outside. The story of Hugh's rise to power comes out: the older brother,

er, Arthur, died six years previously, and this event, coupled with lack of news from Miles, impaired the health of Sir Richard, the father. Believing he was going to die, and wanting Hugh and Edith settled, Sir Richard began to insist they be married. Edith did everything in her power to avoid this marriage, hoping for Miles' return, and she obtained delays on three separate occasions. Finally, however, Sir Richard received a letter claiming Miles had been killed. The news was the final blow for Sir Richard, and Edith and Hugh were married at his deathbed.

Since then, it was rumored that Edith had found several rough drafts of the letter in Hugh's papers—proving what everyone had suspected, that he had forged them. She confronted him, and was punished for it. Not only has her marriage been miserable, but Hugh has proven to be a cruel and pitiless master to all who are in his employ.

Meanwhile, Edward has learned from Blake Andrews that his double will soon be crowned king of England. Andrews reports that, although there are rumors of the young king's madness, he is already loved for his humanity and mercy to the oppressed. Edward is miserable, but is comforted by two kind women, imprisoned because they are Baptists. He blesses these gentle souls, and is horrified and inconsolable when they are subsequently burned at the stake in the jail courtyard, in a heart-breaking scene. Other examples of gross injustice follow; and Edward vows that when he is restored to the throne, he will abolish the cruel laws that have harmed England's citizenry. He asserts that "kings should go to school to their own laws at times, and so learn mercy."

Chapter 28: The Sacrifice

Miles is finally brought to trial and sentenced to two hours in the pillory for claiming to be Sir Hugh's brother and for assaulting him. Edward soon learns that the sentence is accompanied by the abuse of a mob, who throw eggs and insults at Miles. Edward protests this harsh treatment; so the officer in charge, egged on by Hugh, suggests the boy be whipped for his interference. However, Miles intervenes, offering to take the boy's whipping for him, to the delight of the sadistic Hugh.

Miles takes a dozen lashes without crying out, earning Edward's undying gratitude; Miles doesn't know whether to laugh or cry when the boy dubs him an earl. The watching mob are also greatly affected—they cease their abuse, and watch the whipping silently in a show of profound respect.

Chapter 29: To London

After his release, Miles rides with Edward for London. Miles has decided his best hope to clear his name and restore his lands is to try to gain an audience with the new, merciful young king. Miles and Edward arrive at London Bridge on the eve of the coronation, to a scene of drunken revelry. They are separated in the crowd.

Chapter 30: Tom's Progress

Meanwhile, Tom is having a wonderful time as king. He has gotten used to luxury and adulation, and is now comfortable making commands. Although he is still merciful and kind, he is sometimes imperious with the nobles. The true king, and Tom's own mother and sisters, are receding into an uncomfortable memory. As Tom goes happily to sleep in anticipation of the coronation, Edward—ragged, dirty, hungry, and abused—watches with a mob outside Westminster Abbey as workmen hurry to make ready for the next day.

Chapter 31: The Recognition Procession

On coronation day, Tom thoroughly enjoys the sumptuous and elaborate recognition procession through the city to Westminster Abbey. He happily imagines those who had mocked him at Offal Court recognizing him now, although he knows this cannot be. However, his enjoyment turns to ashes when his mother calls out her love to him from the crowd, and is cuffed away by a guard. Tom reflexively denies knowing her, but is overcome by shame and sorrow. A few moments later, Lord Hertford is dismayed at the evidence of Tom's renewed "madness" when the boy tells him, "She was my mother." Jarred out of his fantasy, Tom once again longs to escape his royal cage.

Chapter 32: Coronation Day

On Coronation Day, Edward sneaks into Westminster Abbey with some workmen, hiding close to where Tom will be crowned king. After a

lengthy ceremony marked by much pomp and splendor, the climactic moment arrives, and the Archbishop of Canterbury prepares to place the crown on Tom's head. At that moment, Edward loudly interrupts, forbidding the archbishop to proceed. An uproar ensues, with Tom insisting that Edward is the rightful king and forbidding anyone to touch him, and Lord Hertford closely questioning Edward. Although Edwards correctly answers a number of questions about his royal position and life in the castle, his claims are dismissed until a true test is proposed: he must tell them the whereabouts of the misplaced Great Seal. After a false start, with Tom prompting his memory, Edward recalls where he hid the Great Seal, and after it is found he is declared the king of England.

Meanwhile, the Duke of Somerset (the Lord Protector) prepares to have Tom thrown in jail, but Edward forestalls him with a sharp rebuke. Upon further questioning, it is learned, to everyone's amusement, that Tom had been using the Seal as a nut cracker.

Chapter 33: Edward as King

Meanwhile, Miles Hendon spends a long, hungry night searching for Edward, finally falling asleep near the river. When he wakes up, he follows a throng toward Westminster Abbey, reasoning that the boy would likely have been drawn to the coronation by his "madness." Once there, Miles stands out by virtue of his knightly demeanor and outlandishly ragged dress, so sharply in contrast. He asks a passing boy to get a message to Sir Humphrey Marlowe, his connection at court whom he has decided to ask for recommendation and aid. The boy—very coincidentally—turns out to be the royal whipping boy, as well as the son of Sir Humphrey, who is deceased. Young Marlowe has been sent into the courtyard expressly to look for Miles on behalf of Edward.

Miles is ushered into the royal presence. He is now convinced he is doomed to hang for some offence or other. As he stares at the throne, Edward looks up, and Miles recognizes his young companion. Hendon half-believes he is hallucinating, but decides to test his perception in a rather risky way—by sitting down in the presence of the king.

He is sharply rebuked by the surrounding courtiers, but Edward himself sees Miles and tells everyone about the special privilege he has been granted. Then, to Miles' shock, the boy recounts their adventures together and Miles' heroism, creating him the Earl of Kent and bequeathing to him commensurate lands and wealth.

At this moment, Sir Hugh and the Lady Edith arrive, and the king wastes no time in stripping Sir Hugh of his lands and title and naming him a criminal. After Sir Hugh is led away, Edward names Tom Canty the King's Ward and the head of the board of governors for Christ's Hospital (an orphanage) for life; the Hospital, Edward decrees, will now educate and give spiritual instruction to the boys, not just feed and shelter them. Further, for his entire life, Tom will be distinguished by a peculiar form of dress—rich yet unusual—as a sign of his special connection to royalty and a signal to others to treat him with respect. Edward chooses to honor the changes that Tom has brought about during his brief reign and to use his own hard-won knowledge of the deplorable state of justice in his kingdom. Tom rushes off to tell his mother and sisters. *(Note: according to the end notes, the governor's salary for Christ's Hospital was set at £500 per year—comparable to at least \$260,000 in today's money. In addition, Tom and his family would live rent-free for the rest of their lives.)*

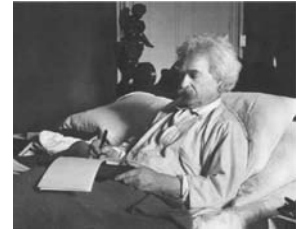
Conclusion: Justice and Retribution

The final chapter wraps up the story's loose ends. Sir Hugh confesses that he forced Edith to repudiate Miles at Hendon Hall by threatening to have him killed if she refused. Hugh is exiled and subsequently dies, whereupon Miles and Edith happily marry. King Edward seeks out all the unjustly treated people he has seen during his adventures, from the farmer in the Ruffler's band to the daughters of the Baptist women who were burned at the stake, and provides for them where he is able. He also rewards those officials who treated him well, and punishes those who were unkind to him (such as the officer who gleefully laid a dozen lashes on Miles' back). John Canty is never heard from again. Tom Canty lives to a great old age with great honor, and in great comfort; he and his mother

and sisters are very happy. Miles, now the Earl of Kent, rules his lands wisely and kindly, and he and his descendants sit in the king's presence. Tom and Miles are the king's favorites throughout his brief reign, and mourn him when he dies. As long as he lives, Edward keeps alive the memory of his ordeal, which serves as a catalyst for an unusually merciful and just reign, for which he is remembered.

Author Sketch

The man William Faulkner would call "the father of American literature" was born Samuel Langhorne Clemens on November 30, 1835, in Florida, Missouri, the sixth of seven children born to John Marshall Clemens, a lawyer and judge, and his wife, Jane. When Twain was four, the family moved to Hannibal, Missouri. His father died when he was eleven, and only three of his siblings survived to adulthood. He was born two weeks after the closest approach to the Earth of Halley's Comet, and in later years predicted that he had "come in with Halley's Comet, and would go out with it as well."



After his father's death, Clemens became a printer's apprentice, later working as a printer in New York City, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Cincinnati, and educating himself by reading in public libraries in those cities. At the age of 22, he returned to Missouri to become a steamboat captain—an extremely lucrative career—memorizing 2,000 miles of waterways and studying for two years. In June of 1858, Twain's younger brother Henry was killed in a boat explosion. Twain was wracked with guilt: not only had he persuaded Henry to join him in the steamboat trade, he had also foreseen the accident in a detailed dream a month earlier. Twain held himself responsible for Henry's death for the rest of his life, and the incident inspired a lifelong interest in parapsychology. After receiving his license in 1859, Twain worked as a captain for two years, until the outbreak of the Civil War curtailed river travel.

In 1861 Twain's brother, Orion, was appointed sec-

retary to the governor of Nevada Territory, and Twain joined him on the stagecoach trip west (the inspiration for his book *Roughing It*). Failing as a miner in Virginia City, Nevada, Twain found a job writing for the local newspaper, the *Territorial Enterprise*. It was here, in February of 1863, that he first used his famous pen name (allegedly a steamboat captain's term for measuring river depth), signing it to a humorous piece. Twain subsequently moved to California and continued his writing career. There, he became friends with such literary figures as Bret Harte, Artemus Ward, and Ina Coolbrith. His first national success came when "The Celebrated Jumping-Frog Contest of Calaveras County" was published in November of 1865. He spent much of the next several years on international trips funded by various publications, and his writings and observations at that time became the basis for *Innocents Abroad* in 1869.

In 1870 he married Olivia Langdon, of a "wealthy but liberal" Eastern family. The couple ultimately settled in Hartford, Connecticut, and formed friendships with such figures as Harriet Beecher Stowe and Frederick Douglass. The marriage, which Twain always said was a case of "love at first sight," lasted for 34 years, until Olivia's death in 1904, and produced one son who died at nineteen months, and three daughters, only one of whom survived Twain himself. In the nineteen years preceding his greatest work, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Twain produced several lesser classics, including *Innocents Abroad* (1869), *Roughing It* (1872), *The Gilded Age* (1873), *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876), *The Prince and the Pauper* (1882), and *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* (1889).

Revered as a humorist and humanist throughout his career, Twain became deeply depressed beginning in 1896, following the death of his daughter, Suzy, and continuing for about ten years as more family illnesses and deaths followed. His last published works, including "The Man That Corrupted Hadleyburg" (1899) and *The Mysterious Stranger* (published posthumously in 1916), reflect his misery and bitterness during this time.

In the final years of his life, Twain regained his equilibrium. He formed the "Angel Fish and Aquarium Club" in 1906 for about a dozen girls between the ages of ten and sixteen, becoming a sort of surrogate grandfather; he wrote them letters and took them on field trips to the theater and museums. In 1908 he wrote that the club was his "life's chief delight." Though retired, he continued to receive recognition, including an honorary degree from Oxford University in 1907. In 1909 he predicted that he would "go out with Halley's Comet," as he had come in. His prediction proved correct: he died of a heart attack on April 21, 1910, in Redding, Connecticut, one day after the comet's closest approach to Earth.

Critic's Corner

Twain's historical romances reflect his love of travel and his enthusiasm for stories involving intrigue, pageantry, and the triumph of justice. *The Prince and the Pauper* contains all these elements and more. The author's emphasis on Edward's special relationship with Miles Herndon—the real hero of the piece—captures a warmth and compassion that all children deserve but often fail to receive. The dangers and cruelties of Tudor England are historically accurate, but Twain manages to override the horrors of the Tower of London, the excesses of royalty, and the near-slavery of the lower classes by creating an adventure that ends in triumph for the lookalikes.

Timeline

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1176 | Construction starts on London Bridge. |
| 1247 | The Priory of St. Mary of Bethlehem opens in Bishopsgate, London. It became a hospital in 1337, and began taking in mental patients a few decades later. In the ensuing centuries, it would gain infamy as "Bedlam" asylum, a place synonymous with inhumane treatment of the insane. |
| 1509 | Henry VIII becomes king of England. |
| 1509-1533 | Henry VIII is married to Katherine of Aragon. |

1516 **Feb. 18** The future Mary I is born.

1533 **Jan. 25** Henry VIII secretly marries Anne Boleyn and banishes Queen Katherine.

1534 England splits from the Catholic Church when Henry VIII forms the Church of England, with himself as its head, to justify his divorce from Katherine of Aragon.

Sept. 7 The future Elizabeth I is born.

1536 **May 15** Anne Boleyn is convicted of treason and adultery.
May 19 Anne Boleyn is executed.
May 30 Henry VIII marries Jane Seymour.

1537 **Oct. 12** Jane Seymour gives birth to Edward VI.
Oct. 24 Jane Seymour dies.

1540 **Jan. 6** Henry VIII marries Anne of Cleves. The marriage is annulled six months later.
July 28 Catherine Howard, a cousin of Anne Boleyn, marries Henry VIII.
Nov. 1 Catherine Howard is accused of adultery.
Feb. 13 Catherine Howard is executed.
Dec. 14 James V, King of Scots, dies. His six-day-old daughter, Mary, becomes queen.
July 12 Henry VIII marries Catherine Parr.

1544-1548 The Rough Wooing: English troops raid Scotland in order to force the young Mary, Queen of Scots, to marry Edward VI.

1547 **Jan. 28** Henry VIII dies.
Jan. 31 Edward Seymour, 1st Duke of Somerset and 1st Earl of Hertford, is named Lord Protector.
Feb. 20 Edward VI is crowned king.
September English troops occupy southern Scotland.

1548 **June** A large French army lands in Scotland.
July Mary, Queen of Scots, is sent to France.

1549 **January** *The Book of Common Prayer* is published.
After April A series of rebellions rocks England; Seymour is blamed
Oct. 10 Edward Seymour is accused of treason and arrested by John

Dudley, Earl of Warwick. Dudley eventually becomes Lord Protector.
June England ends hostilities with Scotland. The war has emptied the English treasury.

1552 **Jan. 22** Edward Seymour is executed.
May 21 John Dudley forces Lady Jane Grey, the granddaughter of Henry VII's sister Mary, to marry his son Guildford.

1553 **June 21** Edward VI names Lady Jane Grey as his successor.
July 6 Edward VI dies.
July 10 John Dudley and others proclaim Lady Jane Grey queen.
July 19 Lady Jane Grey is imprisoned in the Tower of London by Mary I's forces; she is executed in 1554.
Aug. 22 John Dudley is executed for treason.
Oct. 1 Mary I is crowned queen.

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"The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," 1865
Innocents Abroad, 1869
Roughing It, 1872
The Gilded Age, 1873
Ah Sin, the Heathen Chinee (with Bret Harte), 1876
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, 1876
A Tramp Abroad, 1880
Life on the Mississippi, 1883
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, 1885
A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, 1889
Pudd'nhead Wilson, 1894
Tom Sawyer Abroad, 1894
Joan of Arc, 1896
Tom Sawyer, Detective, 1896
Following the Equator, 1897
"The Man That Corrupted Hadleyburg," 1898
The Mysterious Stranger, 1916
The Autobiography of Mark Twain, 1924
"Letters from the Earth," 1963

General Objectives

1. To analyze a dual plot and the interconnected outcomes.
2. To compare the lifestyles of the very rich and the very poor.
3. To assess the themes of loyalty, justice, and compassion.
4. To evaluate the innocence of childhood in terms of its interplay with grim realism.

Specific Objectives

1. To plot the movement of Edward and Miles over a rapidly changing setting.
2. To consider the reign of Henry VIII and its excesses.
3. To contrast the difficulties the two boys encounter with their new lifestyles.
4. To contrast the evil nature of John Canty with the kindness of Miles Hendon.
5. To describe the ceremony and pageantry of Tudor England.

Literary Terms and Applications

For a better understanding of Mark Twain's fiction, present the following terms and applications:

- **Bildungsroman**: literally a "formation novel," which

describes the coming-of-age of an untried or naive youth. Tom Canty and Edward VI are both forced to grow up during the course of *The Prince and the Pauper*, although the lessons they learn follow divergent trajectories. The clothing switch and resultant case of mistaken identity forces Edward to experience first-hand the grinding want, horrific violence, and unspeakable injustice faced by his subjects, much of it imposed by his despotic father, Henry VIII. For the first time in his life, Edward is treated as an ordinary boy, without special privileges or rights, and he suffers as an ordinary son of paupers and supposed victim of insanity would have suffered at the time. As a result of his bitter and painful experiences, Edward learns to value kindness and loyalty (as represented by Miles), experiences genuine anger at injustice and cruelty, and is inspired to right many of his society's wrongs once he is restored to power. Tom, for his part, learns that power has great responsibility as well as privilege, and he, too, must learn honor, integrity, and loyalty—to the responsibility he has been given as short-term "king," and to his family and roots (when he repents of denying his mother at the coronation). Both boys acquit themselves well, navigating the challenges of their new surroundings with their honor and spirit intact.

- **Humor**: a gentle, affirmative emphasis on human nature, foibles, and idiosyncrasies. Twain lightens his text with a generous outpouring of comic scenes, such as when the boy king and the farm wife both consider themselves to be making a grand concession by sitting together at the same breakfast table, or when the band of ruffians pauses a moment to mourn the passing of the old woman with the "genius" for cursing. Throughout the story, the running gag of the apparent prince who thinks he's a pauper, and the apparent pauper who insists he's a prince, provides consternation and amusement for both the other characters and the reader, providing some counterbalance to the cruelties depicted.

- **Irony**: an implied discrepancy between what is said or done and what is meant. *The Prince and the Pauper* is full of irony, starting with the central situation: both Tom Canty and Prince Edward are telling the truth, yet both appear, and are judged to be, insane. Ironic, too, is the notion that both boys, though from such different stations, appear to suffer from a lack of parenting and fatherly guidance, and both boys must gain this guidance from unlikely sources (Miles and the Lord Protector), on one hand, and learn to appreciate the feminine support and love they do have, on the other (e.g., from Mrs. Canty and her daughters,

and from the ladies Elizabeth and Jane). Both dark humor and rich irony are displayed in, for instance, the descriptions of what constituted legal “proof” in Edward and Tom’s day.

The Importance of Setting

As in most of Mark Twain’s works, setting plays an integral part in the story, and is in fact both a unifying theme and a virtual character. The time and place are what make the story’s entire setup possible: the central situation of the switched identities is only plausible amid the dirt, injustice, ignorance, bigotry, disregard of children’s rights, cruelty, and social stratification—as well as the vigor—of Tudor England. The broad theme of reversal of fortune is played out again and again in the context of the setting—e.g., in the switching of the boys’ identities; the story of the farmer who became a beggar and lost his family; the theft and miraculous restoration of Miles’ birthright; and the ultimate elevation of Tom Canty and his family.

Related Reading

Avi, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*
 Orson Scott Card, *Ender’s Game*
 Paulo Coelho, *The Alchemist*
 Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*
 Sid Fleischman, *Jim Ugly*
 Paula Fox, *Slave Dancer*
 Robin Graham, *The Dove*
 Robert Heinlein, *Have Spacesuit, Will Travel*
 Irene Hunt, *No Promises in the Wind*
 Jack London, “To Build a Fire”
 Gary Paulsen, *Nightjohn and Hatchet*
 J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*

Themes and Motifs

A study of the central issues and situations in Mark Twain’s *The Prince and the Pauper* should include these aspects:

Themes

- rootlessness
- isolation
- control
- survival
- autonomy

- violence
- mendacity
- dishonesty
- self-knowledge
- guilt
- rescue
- friendship

Motifs

- coping with an abusive parent
- neglect of children
- management of sudden wealth or sudden poverty
- experiencing social issues on a personal level
- taking responsibility for actions
- empathizing with a fellow orphan

Meaning Study

Below are words, phrases, sentences, or thought units that have a particular meaning in the novel. Explain the meaning of each. Page numbers are given so that you can note the context from which the item is taken.

1. “Le Roi est Mort—Vive le Roi!” (p. 83)
(In the French and English monarchies during the Middle Ages and Renaissance, this was traditionally proclaimed from the seat of government, and publicly repeated throughout the land; it was the traditional declaration of transfer of power. The phrase is French, since the English adopted this practice when French was the language of the English nobility. A member of the aristocracy would personally verify the old king’s death and the new king’s accession, and make a public announcement that the monarchy continued uninterrupted. The tradition arose in an era of great political instability, when civil war was common; It was an assurance of a smooth, peaceful transfer of power, with no instability or gap in leadership.

On an informal level, this statement may also have been cause for mourning or celebration. In the case of Henry VIII, perhaps the traditional phrase embodied relief at the death of a cruel and despotic leader, and the hope that his successor would be more merciful.)

2. Non compos mentis lex talionis sic transit Gloria mundi (p. 147)

(Hendon is making up a terrifying “law” to scare the constable into allowing Edward’s escape. The line is really a catenation of three well-known Latin phrases: “Non compos mentis” (“not of sound mind”), “lex talionis” (“the law of retaliation”), and “sic transit gloria mundi” (“thus passes away the glory of the world”). Although Miles is engaged in pure bamboozlement, the phrases are ironic, touching on the main themes of the book—insanity, retribution for injustice, and the transitory nature of human power and fame.)

3. The Tower (p. 35)
(The Tower of London, long used as a fortress commanding a sweeping view of the Thames River, is remembered today chiefly as the scene of bloody executions and imprisonments of the nobility. The term is equivalent to “the chair”—a reference to execution via the electric chair—in American parlance.)
4. The stone of Scone (p. 184)
(This rather unimpressive flat rock was the focal point of Scottish coronation ceremonies until Edward I removed it in 1296 and placed it under the coronation chair in Westminster Abbey, where it remains today.)
5. Madam Parr, the queen (p. 47)
(At this point in Henry VIII’s life, his sixth and last queen was Catherine Parr (1512-1548), who survived her husband and lived to see Edward VI placed on the English throne.)
6. Prince of Wales (p. 15)
(A ceremonial title conferred on the oldest son and heir apparent of a British king or queen.)
7. The yeomen of the guard (p. 104)
(A troop of 100 men who have constituted a ceremonial guard for the English royal family since the time of Henry VII in 1485.)
8. Equerries (p. 18)
(The officers who serve as personal attendants on a member of royalty.)
9. From the red and white roses proceeded a stem which reached up to a second stage, occupied by Henry VIII. ... (p. 180)
(The symbolism of the float stems from the civil war of the fifteenth century known as the Wars of the Roses (1455-1485), during which the house of York, whose symbol was the white rose, battled the house of Lancaster, symbolized by the red rose, as each family sought the throne. The establishment of the house of Tudor by Henry VIII’s father, Henry VII, united the Yorks

and Lancastrians and ended the conflict; the Tudor monarchs subsequently adopted a symbol that combined the two previous ones.)

10. Bloody Mary (p. 88)
(Edward’s older half-sister (1516-1558), the child of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon and a staunch Roman Catholic, ruled England from 1553 to 1558, during which time she earned her nickname for persecution of Protestants.)

Comprehension Study

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers by referring to passages in the book.

Questions 1-5—Literal Level

1. What obsolete words does Twain employ to give the text a quaint flavor?
(Some examples of Tudor-era language are as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Sooth</u> —fact | <u>hie</u> —hurry |
| <u>Prithee</u> —please | <u>alack</u> —oh! |
| <u>Albeit</u> —although | <u>leal</u> —loyal |
| <u>Sith</u> —since | <u>beshrew</u> —curse |
| <u>Certes</u> —surely | <u>apace</u> —swiftly |
| <u>Beldame</u> —hag | <u>withal</u> —with |
| <u>Marry</u> —indeed! | <u>troth</u> —truth |
| <u>Mayhap</u> —possibly | <u>eftsoon</u> —often |
| <u>Peradventure</u> —perhaps | <u>methinks</u> —it seems |
| <u>Good den</u> —good day | <u>enow</u> —enough |
| <u>Whereunto</u> —to which) | |

2. What conclusive proof of his identity does Edward give the assembly in Westminster?
(The Lord Protector, after lengthy questioning about trivial matters, hits upon the whereabouts of the missing Seal, which only the prince could locate. Edward’s first suggestion, that the messenger look in a hidden cache within his private cabinet, proves unsuccessful; however, when Tom prompts him, the prince remembers putting it in the sleeve of a suit of armor. When the seal is produced, the assemblage cries, “Long live the true king!”)
3. How does the prince plan to communicate with his uncle, the Lord Hertford?
(Edward’s plan to send a paper in Latin, Greek, and English proves to be Miles’ salvation when

he attempts to find Sir Humphrey Marlow. As guards search the pockets of the suspicious-looking Miles, who is “prowling within the precincts of the palace,” they discover the letter and usher him into the king’s court, where Miles recognizes his daft little friend seated on the throne of England.)

4. How does Edith react to Miles’ return?
(In what is later shown to be an attempt to protect Miles, Edith—the sad, stately wife of Miles’ brother Hugh—shows no outward emotional response to her former fiancé’s return. She treats him as an honored guest, warns him that he is in danger, and even offers him money to aid his escape. She attempts to reveal her predicament by describing the situation in guarded words: “If you were Miles Hendon, and (Hugh) knew it, . . . he would deny you and denounce you, and none would be bold enough to give you countenance.” She clearly implies that Hugh will murder Miles if provoked. Her emotional state causes her face to change color, but she verbally denies knowing Miles. At the book’s end, it is revealed that Hugh had threatened to kill Miles if Edith admitted she recognized him.)
5. What aspects of royal life disturb Tom’s enjoyment of luxury?
(Tom despises having servants dress him and attend to simple tasks he can manage for himself. He feels imprisoned and watched, even when he lies down for a nap. The parade of servants hinders his freedom at every turn.)

Questions 6-8—Interpretive Level

1. How do Miles Hendon and Humphrey Marlow serve similar functions?
(Humphrey Marlow explains his purpose at court, much to Tom’s surprise, and begs to retain his post as whipping boy. His description of the job is clear: “None may visit the sacred person of the Prince of Wales with blows, wherefore when he faulteth, ‘tis I that take them. . . .” Likewise, when Edward’s haughty manner earns him lashes, Miles Hendon begs to take the punishment. The prince rewards his faithful service with a royal proclamation: “He picked up the scourge from the ground, touched Hendon’s bleeding shoulders lightly with it, and whispered, “Edward of England dubs thee earl!”)

2. How does Tom’s mother change the boy’s attitude toward his new-found status?
(Tom meets the resplendent joys of Coronation Day with rapture until he is embraced by his mother. He spurns her caresses, shouting: “I do not know you, woman!” But the change in Tom is evident to all who await a glimpse of the new king. The Lord Protector scolds him gently with, “Shake off these fatal humors, the eyes of the world are upon thee.” But a miserable Tom confesses, “She was my mother!”)
3. How does Edward convince himself to take part in humble farm work?
(When a kindly widow takes Edward into her kitchen and offers him food, she expects him to assume some of the chores in repayment. She tests his knowledge of farming, herding, and trades in vain, before eliciting some encouraging remarks about cooking. When Edward undertakes the lowly kitchen work of cooking and washing dishes, he strengthens his resolve by recalling the humble tasks of King Alfred [849-899 A.D.]: “Alfred the Great watched the cakes; doubtless he would have washed the dishes too, therefore will I essay it.”)

Questions 9 and 10—Critical Level

1. Why does the author fail to deal with John Canty’s cruelty in the section titled “Justice and Retribution”?
(John Canty has revealed enough of his checkered past to Edward during their stay with the brigands to bring about a pledge from the prince that Canty will hang for his offenses. Twain backs away from that vow in the concluding chapter in one line: “Tom Canty’s father was never heard of again.” Perhaps the cruelty and dire situations in the novel have been sufficient for the author so that he chooses to avoid further bloodshed.)
2. How does Twain justify Tom’s extensive knowledge of royal life?
(Twain explains Tom’s knowledge as the combined product of information acquired from Father Andrew, observations of royal pageantry on the streets of London, and a vivid imagination’s attempts to mentally escape Offal Court. The contrast between the imagined world and the daily squalor and cruelty of his surroundings sends Tom headlong into a fantasy world.)

Question 11—Creative Level

1. Outline a day in the life of the Prince of Wales during the sixteenth century. Include the detailed briefings, meetings with foreign dignitaries, petitioners, conversations with Mary and Elizabeth, repeated changes of clothing, and royal dining in the presence of the court.

Across the Curriculum

History/Social Studies/Geography

1. Locate pictures of the major tourist attractions of London, such as Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, the Thames River, the Houses of Parliament, the British Museum, Hyde Park, and others. Create a travel guide to London by summarizing the sights a tourist would want to see.
2. Mark a map to accompany your travel guide in #1. Note the roads out of London that lead to other important attractions, such as Stonehenge, Canterbury, Bath, Coventry Cathedral, Oxford, Cambridge, Eton, and Dunkirk.
3. Summarize the rights guaranteed in the Magna Carta, which King John signed in 1215 at Runnymede. Compare those statements to the Bill of Rights in our own Constitution.

Art/Music

1. Listen to recordings of popular music from sixteenth century England, such as "Green Grow the Rushes-O" and "Greensleeves." Compose some lyrics that capture the bustling life of the London streets.
2. Create a mural depicting the wonders of the English Renaissance. Include the beginning and ending dates. Highlight the most important discoveries, inventions, political changes, and creative ventures of the age.

Language Arts/Literature

1. Write a scene that imagines Tom returning home and conversing with his mother and sisters. Emphasize the questions the family asks Tom about his stay in the palace.

Alternate Assessment

1. Write a report on the reign of Henry VIII. Draw a chart of the king's family tree, including wives

and children. Explain the changes that his divorce proceedings brought about in the English church.

2. Imagine that you could trade places temporarily with someone from history. Whom would you choose? What aspects of that person's life would you expect to enjoy? What aspects of your own life would you miss most? Write a short essay expressing your feelings about the change.
3. Write short reports on Jane Seymour, Mary I, and Elizabeth I. How do you suppose Elizabeth managed to survive the turmoil of her childhood and subsequent reign?
4. Hold a session of "Meet the Press" in which you and your classmates interview interesting and important people of the sixteenth century. Invite Anne Boleyn, Elizabeth I, Hans Holbein, Jacques Cartier, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Francis Drake, William Shakespeare, Sir Francis Bacon, Nostradamus, Michelangelo, Ivan the Terrible, and Christopher Marlowe to be your guests.
5. Compare Twain's condemnation of injustice in England as it appears in *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* and *The Prince and the Pauper*. In which book does Twain make the harshest statements about unfair treatment of the common man?

Vocabulary Test

Each of these sentences contains a pair of underlined words which are synonyms for the original words in the text. Choose the set of words which Twain originally used and place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left. You will have five pairs of words left over when you finish.

- _____ 1. Then followed such a thing as England had never seen before—the sacred person of the heir to the throne rudely jostled by common hands and set upon and torn by dogs.
- _____ 2. Tom stared in glad wonder at the vast pile of masonry, the wide-spreading wings, the frowning fortifications and turrets, the huge stone gateway, with its gold-colored bars and its magnificent array of colossal granite lions, and the other signs and symbols of English royalty.
- _____ 3. The master, being angry with what he termed such slovenly and slow-witted work, did promise that he would soundly whip me. ...
- _____ 4. There followed a confusion of kicks, cuffs, tramlings, and plungings, accompanied by a thunderous intermingling of simultaneous curses, and finally a bitter address to the mule. ...
- _____ 5. ... Thou'lt find it to thy advantage to busy thyself with matters that nearer concern thee than this treasonous gab.
- _____ 6. ... After the Protector followed a seemingly interminable procession of dazzling nobles attended by their underlings. ...
- _____ 7. But if a doubt remained in any mind that Tom Canty was not the king of England and familiar with the venerable belongings of royalty, this reply disposed of it utterly.
- _____ 8. Hendon dispatched his washing with speed.
- _____ 9. But thy good Nan and thy Bet shall have raiment and servants enow, and that soon too; my treasurer shall look to it.
- _____ 10. He only begged just enough to save himself, for the laws against panhandling were harsh and penalties heavy. ...

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. ablutions, alacrity | I. resplendent, vassals |
| B. august, appurtenances | J. sagacity, bandying |
| C. bastions, gilded | K. seditious, prattle |
| D. buffeted, plebeian | L. soliloquizing, inane |
| E. farthings, unscathed | M. torpid, perdition |
| F. lackeys, cofferer | N. usury, raileries |
| G. mellow, myriads | O. volleyed, apostrophe |
| H. mendicancy, stringent | P. wroth, doltish |

Comprehension Test A

Part I: Matching (20 points)

Match each of the following quotations with the name of the speaker. Some of the answers below may be used more than once and some not at all.

- _____ 1. "...My person is sacred; and thou shalt hang for laying thy hand upon me!"
- _____ 2. "Turn thy back a moment and seem not to see: *let this poor lad escape.*"
- _____ 3. "My liege, it is an ill time for dreaming. The people observe thy downcast head, thy clouded mien, and they take it for an omen."
- _____ 4. "When I am king, they shall not have bread and shelter only, but also teachings out of books, for a full belly is little worth where the mind is starved, and the heart."
- _____ 5. "Warn my Parliament to bring me Norfolk's doom before the sun rise again, else shall they answer for it grievously."
- _____ 6. "The morrow must we pay two pennies to him that owns this hole; two pennies, mark ye—all this money for a half year's rent, else out of this we go."
- _____ 7. "But a king who casts his crown away, and despises vain splendors of his office ...—he is worthy, he is welcome!"
- _____ 8. "But I will tell you what you *will* do. You will play decoy whilst I beg."
- _____ 9. "The servants know you not, sir. I fear there is some mistake. You have seen that my wife knew you not."
- _____ 10. "'Tis not for nought I have dwelt but among princes in my reading and taught my tongue some slight trick of their broidered and gracious speech withal!"

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| a. Edward | e. Hugh Hendon | i. the Lord Protector |
| b. Elizabeth | f. Hugo | j. Miles Hendon |
| c. Henry VIII | g. Jane Grey | k. the Ruffler |
| d. the Hermit | h. John Canty | l. Tom Canty |

Part II: Fill-in (20 points)

At the beginning of the sentence, write the word the correctly completes the statement.

- _____ 1. Edward's uncle, Lord _____, fears his nephew is mad.
- _____ 2. John Canty flees London after he learns he has killed _____, whom he struck with a cudgel.
- _____ 3. Tom is fortunate in stumbling upon a book about _____.
- _____ 4. Much to his sorrow, _____ learns too late that the king has declared it an act of treason to comment on the boy's madness.
- _____ 5. The value of the stolen _____ is over thirteen and a half cents, enough to require that the thief be hanged.
- _____ 6. Edwards turns his face from the sight of two women whose punishment for their religious beliefs is _____.
- _____ 7. While the boy sleeps, _____ measures Edward with a string so he can buy him new clothes.
- _____ 8. _____ takes Grey Friars' Church, renames it Christ's Church, and turns it into a home for destitute children.
- _____ 9. The prisoner accused of murder by poisoning was found guilty after it was revealed that a _____ foretold that the man would die by poison.
- _____ 10. A lawyer is punished for writing a pamphlet by having both his _____ cut off and his cheeks branded.

Part III: True/False (30 points)

Mark each of the following statements **T** if it is true or **F** if any part is false.

- _____ 1. Tom finds comfort from his father's cruelty in the tender love of his grandmother.
- _____ 2. The prince becomes angry at palace guards when he discovers a bruise on Tom's hand.
- _____ 3. Tom admits to St. John that the woman who embraced him during the procession is his mother.
- _____ 4. Henry VIII is eager to send the Duke of Norfolk to his death.
- _____ 5. Lady Jane Grey and the princess Elizabeth are astonished to find that Tom has learned a little Greek.
- _____ 6. Tom first sees the King in his apartment, resting his swollen legs on a pillow.
- _____ 7. The Hermit claims that he is an archangel.
- _____ 8. Miles learns from his brother that their father and their brother Arthur are dead.
- _____ 9. The Ruffler passes himself off as John Hobbs, father of Jack.
- _____ 10. Humphrey Marlow begs Tom to intercede on behalf of the women accused of witchcraft.
- _____ 11. A figure of honor in the pageant is Jane Seymour, Edward's mother.
- _____ 12. The Lord Protector walks at the head of the procession, throwing sweets to those who cry "Largess!"
- _____ 13. One of Miles's former servants smuggles delicacies and news into the prison.
- _____ 14. The king rewards the justice who pitied him when he was accused of stealing a pig.
- _____ 15. Miles Hendon is proclaimed the King's Ward because of his brief service as king's protector.

Part IV: Essay Questions (30 points)

- 1. Describe Tom's difficulties in dealing with palace servants.
- 2. Explain how Edward escapes from Hugo's clutches.

Comprehension Test B

Part I: Matching (20 points)

Below are parts of quotations from the novel. Match the sections by placing the correct letter in the blanks provided at left. You will have letters left over when you finish.

- _____ 1. Miles Hendon and Tom Canty were favorites of the king all through his brief reign, ...
- _____ 2. "He grumbled, but he went—he went, yes, because he thought ...
- _____ 3. "The king is near his end, my nephew is mad; ...
- _____ 4. Now and then he and the rest of London had a chance to see ...
- _____ 5. "These be honorable scars," he said, and turned back his gray hair, ...
- _____ 6. "How sanely he put his questions; how like his former natural self ...
- _____ 7. "Another English king had a commission like to this in a bygone time; ...
- _____ 8. "I will teach him, I will cure his malady; yea, I will be his elder brother, and care for him and watch over him; ...
- _____ 9. The king came softly to Hendon's side and whispered in his ear, "Kings cannot ennoble thee, though good, great soul, ...
- _____ 10. "None may visit the sacred person of the Prince of Wales with blows, wherefore when he faulteth, 'tis I that take them; ...

- a. ...a military parade when some famous unfortunate was carried prisoner to the Tower by land or boat.
- b. ... mad will mount the throne, and made remain."
- c. ... and saved his life that windy, bitter, first day of the New Year—a brave good deed; pity he hath been doing baser ones and got himself in this sad case."
- d. ... and whoso would shame him or do him hurt may order his shroud, for though I be burnt for it he shall need it!"
- e. ... Miles Hendon asked it, sweet lad—he would ne'er have done it for another, I know it well."
- f. ... He will think I begged it, it will glad his heart, and I shall no more be beaten."
- g. ... and meet it is and right, for that it is mine office and my livelihood."
- h. ... was this abrupt, imperious disposal of the matter!"
- i. ... and if it return to thee at any time, forget me not, but fetch me a storm."
- j. ... if by that means he could but buy himself free from some of the more formidable requirements of his royal office.
- k. ... it is nothing against my dignity to undertake an office which the great Alfred stooped to assume."
- l. ... and showed the mutilated stubs of what had once been his ears.
- m. ... for One who is higher than kings hath done that for thee; but a king can confirm thy nobility to men."
- n. ... When he did intrude upon them at intervals, he was become an unwelcome specter, for he made Tom feel guilty and ashamed.
- o. ... and his sincere mourners when he died.

Part II: Fill-in (20 points)

Fill in the blanks at left with answers to each of the following questions.

- _____ 1. Who threatens the sleeping prince with a knife?
- _____ 2. Which character earns the nickname "Foo-foo the First"?
- _____ 3. Who can recognize Tom by a peculiar hand gesture he makes?
- _____ 4. Which character intimidates Edith and the servants of Hendon Hall?
- _____ 5. Who tests Tom by asking him a question in Latin?
- _____ 6. Which character teaches Tom how to read and write?
- _____ 7. In what building is the coronation held?
- _____ 8. What title does Edward bestow on Miles Hendon?
- _____ 9. Who turns away from the sight of two women being burned at the stake for their religious beliefs?
- _____ 10. Which character changes his name to John Hobbs?

Part III: Multiple Choice (30 points)

Complete each of the following statements with the best response. Indicate your choice by writing the letter of the appropriate response in the space provided at left.

- _____ 1. Tom discovers a book in the palace that teaches him about **a)** the royal family, **b)** the Great Seal, **c)** etiquette, **d)** witchcraft.
- _____ 2. The constable is happy to let Edward escape after **a)** Miles warns him the pig will cost him his life, **b)** Hugo threatens him with a knife, **c)** the woman makes restitution for the theft, **d)** he learns the boy's true identity.
- _____ 3. The prince proves his claim to the throne by **a)** forcing Tom to give him the crown, **b)** locating the Great Seal, **c)** answering questions in Latin, Greek, and French, **d)** revealing a letter he has written to Humphrey Marlow.
- _____ 4. Tom's mother watches the boy as he sleeps so that **a)** she can protect him from John Canty's abuse, **b)** he will not try to escape again, **c)** she can test his reaction to her call, **d)** the Ruffler will not tease him anymore.
- _____ 5. Miles measures the boy with a piece of string so that **a)** he can determine the boy's identity, **b)** the judge will believe their story, **c)** Edward can prove his claim to the English throne, **d)** he can buy the boy new clothes.
- _____ 6. Father Andrew dies from the effects of an attack by **a)** the Ruffler, **b)** Miles Henson, **c)** Hugo, **d)** John Canty.
- _____ 7. Miles is thrown into prison **a)** and charged with being a vagabond, **b)** because Edith doubts his story, **c)** after Hugh forges a letter describing Miles's death, **d)** on the testimony of a servant, Blake Andrews.
- _____ 8. Tom wishes to be free of his captivity after **a)** he publicly denies his mother, **b)** Edward threatens to punish him for impersonating a king, **c)** Henry VIII dies, **d)** the Lord Chancellor urges him to pass judgment on the witch.
- _____ 9. On their way through the mob near the Thames, Miles and Edward **a)** must hurry to escape John Canty, **b)** hear shouts of "Long live King Edward the Sixth!," **c)** hide from the Ruffler and Hugo, **d)** catch glimpses of the royal barge on its way down the Thames.
- _____ 10. Tom declares that he was not the first to **a)** free a witch from the charge of poisoning, **b)** beg mercy for the Duke of Norfolk, **c)** place the Great Seal in the armpiece of the Milanese armor, **d)** change places with the prince.
- _____ 11. Hugh Hendon confesses to King Edward VI that **a)** he had Miles imprisoned on false charges, **b)** Edith had to lie to save Miles from assassination, **c)** he ordered the killing of Arthur, **d)** he planted the forged letter where their father would find it.
- _____ 12. After his formal reception as the King's Ward, **a)** Miles hurries to Herndon Hall to marry Edith, **b)** Tom hastens to tell his mother and sisters the good news, **c)** Miles sits down in the presence of the king, **d)** Tom removes the ermine robes and places them on Edward.
- _____ 13. The Ruffler saves the prince from John Canty's abuse by **a)** putting the boy in Hugo's charge, **b)** sending him to the Hermit's hut, **c)** forcing the boy to play decoy for Hugo, **d)** bribing the constable to let Edward go.
- _____ 14. During his seven years' absence from England, Miles Hendon **a)** found lodging among a band of thieves, **b)** wrote letters to Sir Richard Hendon concerning Hugh's evil deceptions, **c)** learned of Edward's plight in the Hermit's cottage, **d)** fought in the Continental wars.
- _____ 15. Before his death, Henry VIII vows to **a)** find his son again, **b)** reward the Earl of Hertford for his service to the crown, **c)** restore the lost Seal of England to its proper place, **d)** see the Duke of Norfolk executed.

Part IV: Essay Questions (30 points)

1. Describe Tom's trip down the Thames on the royal barge.
2. Compare Miles with Tom's mother in terms of their loyalty and love for Edward and Tom.

Answer Key

VOCABULARY TEST

1. d 6. i
2. c 7. b
3. p 8. a
4. o 9. f
5. k 10. h

COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Matching (20 points)

1. a
2. j
3. i
4. a
5. c
6. h
7. d
8. f
9. e
10. l

Part II: Fill-in (20 points)

1. Hertford
2. Father Andrew
3. etiquette
4. St. John
5. pig
6. Burning at the stake
7. Miles Hendon
8. Henry VIII
9. witch
10. ears

Part III: True/False (30 points)

1. F
2. T
3. F
4. T
5. F
6. T
7. T
8. T
9. F
10. F
11. T
12. F
13. T
14. T
15. F

COMPREHENSION TEST B

Part I: Matching (20 points)

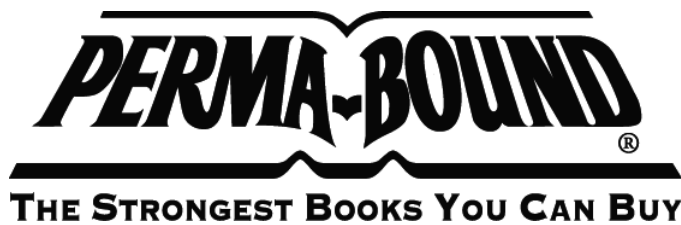
1. o
2. e
3. b
4. a
5. l
6. h
7. k
8. d
9. m
10. g

Part II: Fill-in (20 points)

1. the Hermit
2. Edward
3. his mother
4. Hugh Hendon
5. Henry VIII
6. Father Andrew
7. Westminster Abbey
8. Earl of Kent
9. Edward
10. John Canty

Part III: Multiple choice (30 points)

1. c
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. d
6. d
7. a
8. a
9. b
10. c
11. b
12. b
13. a
14. d
15. d



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