The Foundations Of Economic Policy Values And Techniques
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scouring the house in search of her nephew, Tom Sawyer. She finds him in the closet, discovers that his hands are covered with jam, and prepares to give him a whipping. Tom cries out theatrically, "Look behind you!" and when Aunt Polly turns, Tom escapes over the fence. After Tom is gone, Aunt Polly reflects wistfully on Tom's mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at supper time to find that he has been skipped school that afternoon and sent into the woods. He is too busy playing to notice how busy his mother is. Aunt Polly is satisfied.

When Tom returns home in the evening, Aunt Polly finds him sitting in a chair reading a book. She notices his dirty clothes and resolves to make him work the next day, a Saturday, as punishment.

On Saturday morning, Aunt Polly sends Tom out to whitewash the fence. Jim passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a "white alley," a kind of necklace. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his task.