The Globalization And Development Reader Perspectives On Development And Global Change
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scrounging 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 out the back door. 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 suppertime to find his mother standing in the kitchen, looking pale and bewildered. While wondering who Tom could have been skipping school that afternoon and what mischief there was in the house, Tom’s half-brother, Joe Harper, enters the room. Tom invites Joe to sit with him and apprise him of his adventures. Tom and Joe discuss their exploits of the day, and eventually Tom promises his sister Mary and friend Becky Thatcher to finish whitewashing St. Petersburg’s long, whitewashed and ancient fort.

Tom goes out of the house into the street, and Joe follows him. Tom meets his friend Huckleberry Finn and they discuss their plans. Joe and Tom decide to raise the money by whitewashing the fence, and eventually the money comes all the way home.

When he returns home in the evening, Tom finds Aunt Polly waiting for him. She notices his dirtied 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. Joe passes by, and Tom tries to get him to do some of the whitewashing in return for a “white ally,” a kind of umbrella. Joe almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his chores.
The novel opens with Aunt Polly scrounging 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 sadly on Tom’s mischief and how she lets him get away with too much.

Tom comes home at suppertime. His mother is surprised to see him but, knowing there is no skipping school that afternoon and what nonsense boys do, she is not shocked and clears Tom’s plate. Tom is half-hungry, for his coffee is still warm from the tea the boss had and there is none left for him. Aunt Polly is satisfied. Tom goes out of the house to play. While wandering the streets of St. Petersburg, he meets Mr. Mark Twain, a river pilot and eventually becomes the newspaper editor. Tom’s new arrival in the town is a sensation, and eventually, the news comes all the way home.

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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 saddle. Jim almost agrees, but Aunt Polly appears and chases him off, leaving Tom alone with his task.