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Tom Sawyer

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer was written by Mark Twain and was an exciting and funny book. Tom Sawyer was always going on adventures in the small rural town of St. Petersburg Missouri. Tom would often get himself into some sort of trouble with his aunt or the people of St. Petersburg. He was a very mischievous, but clever boy. On one occasion he had tricked his friends into paying him, so they can do his chores. In this paper I will talk about the characteristics of Tom, the symbolism in the book, and the flat characters in the book.

Tom Sawyer was a very dirty, unkempt, and uneducated boy. "I ain't never seen sich a dirty faced bunch." This quote is directed toward Tom and his friend, really showing how unkempt he was. He also spoke with a very southern dialect, often consisting of broken English words. Tom really shows how many of the boys of his time acted.

I think Tom is symbol of the typical American boy of his time. "He pretended he did not know she was present and began to show off in all sorts of absurd boyish ways." This quote is basically saying that the average boy would show off in absurd ways. This book was written in the 1870s, so the boys of that time definitely acted differently then the boys of our time. This is why I believe that Tom represents most of the boys of his time.

Tom's brother Sid is a good example of a flat character. Throughout the whole book, Sid is a quiet kid that Tom picks on. "Then he skipped out, and saw Sid just starting up the outside

stairway that led to the back rooms on the second floor.” He never really played with Tom, and you would always just hang out by himself. Sid's never really changed at all during the book, so he is a perfect example of a flat character.

Tom was very clever and mischievous and would use his cleverness in mischievous ways. I really enjoyed this book, and I recommend it for readers of all ages. Tom Sawyers adventures were very entertaining, and it was a really good book.

Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Dover Publications, 1998