

Tom Sawyer

Vocabulary chapters 21-24

gilded—covered with a thin layer of gold; made to be bright and shiny
dome—a rounded top of something; like a rounded roof
ferule—stick or ruler for punishing children by striking them on the hand
dominie—schoolmaster; clergyman
spasmodic—occurring very irregularly
gesticulation—lively or excited gestures; wild waving of the hands
edification—to instruct and improve especially in moral and religious knowledge
frivolous—silly; lacking seriousness; senseless
geniality—the quality of being friendly and cheerful
garret—space in a house just below a sloping roof
temperance—exhibiting self-control; being moderate in habits; speech; actions, etc.
abstain—do without something; refrain
convalescent—recovering health and strength after an illness
minstrel—singer or musician; a white man in make-up appearing as a black man who entertains by song and dance
mesmerizer—hypnotist
measles—an infectious disease characterized by a bad cold, fever, and a breaking out of red spots on the skin
tract—book or pamphlet on a religious topic
forbearance—patience; control; not acting out against someone when you have the right to
incongruous—not appropriate; out of place
verdict—the result of a trial—guilty or innocent
haggard—having a wild or wasted look as if from lack of sleep
stolid—having or showing little or no emotion or sympathy
perplexity—being confused, not understanding
delirium—a temporary state of mental excitement, confusion, or insanity
corpse—a dead body