

Of Magic Lamps and Genies

...when Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn go raiding



CONNECT Recall some of the childhood games you used to play and tell the class about it.

REFLECT What are the games you have played? What sports and games would you like to play and improve in? List them.

IMAGINE A girl/boy encounters a genie in the woods. What do they say to each other? Show the episode in the form of a comic.

BEFORE YOU READ



Mark Twain (1835–1910) was an American writer. He is often referred to as the father of American literature. He was born in Florida, Missouri (USA). During his early years as a writer, he contributed humorous articles to his older brother's newspaper. A master of satires, comedy remained at the centre of most of his writings. Some of his famous novels include *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876), *The Prince and the Pauper* (1881) and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1885).

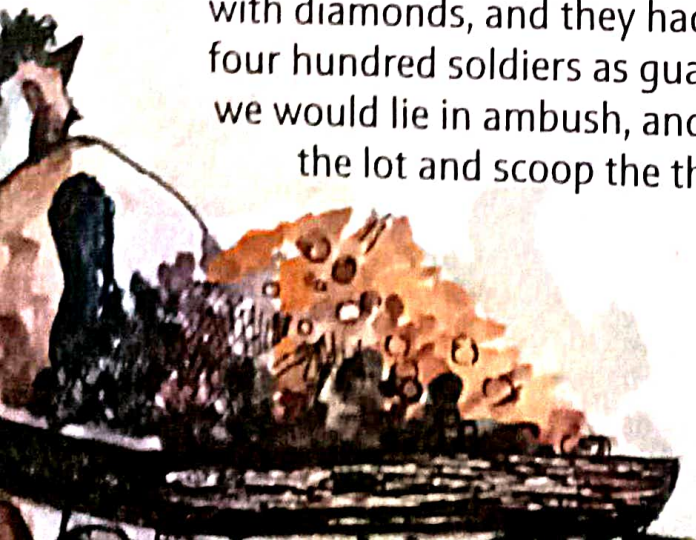
Of Magic Lamps and Genies is an extract adapted from Mark Twain's masterpiece, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. This novel was first published in the year 1885 and is often called 'The Great American Novel'. It is also said that all modern American literature comes from *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The novel shows the adventures of Huck Finn and his chum, Tom Sawyer. Twain was raised in Hannibal, Missouri, which provided him with the setting for his novel. The Mississippi river, which flows next to the town, also plays an important role in the book.



READ

My friends and I had invented a new game. We pretended to be robbers for fun. We played this game for a month. We would hop out of the woods and go charging down on drivers and women in carts who were taking garden stuff to market. Tom Sawyer called the turnips 'jewellery' and corns 'gold bricks'. Though we never carried any stuff back with us. We would go to the cave and **powwow** over what we had done, how brave we were and how much gold we had collected. But I couldn't see any profit in it.

One time Tom sent a boy to run about town with a blazing stick (which was the sign for the gang to get together), and then he said he had got secret news by his spies that next day a whole parcel of Spanish merchants and rich Arabs was going to camp in Cave Hollow with two hundred elephants, six hundred camels and over a thousand mules, all loaded with diamonds, and they had only four hundred soldiers as guards. So we would lie in ambush, and attack the lot and scoop the things.



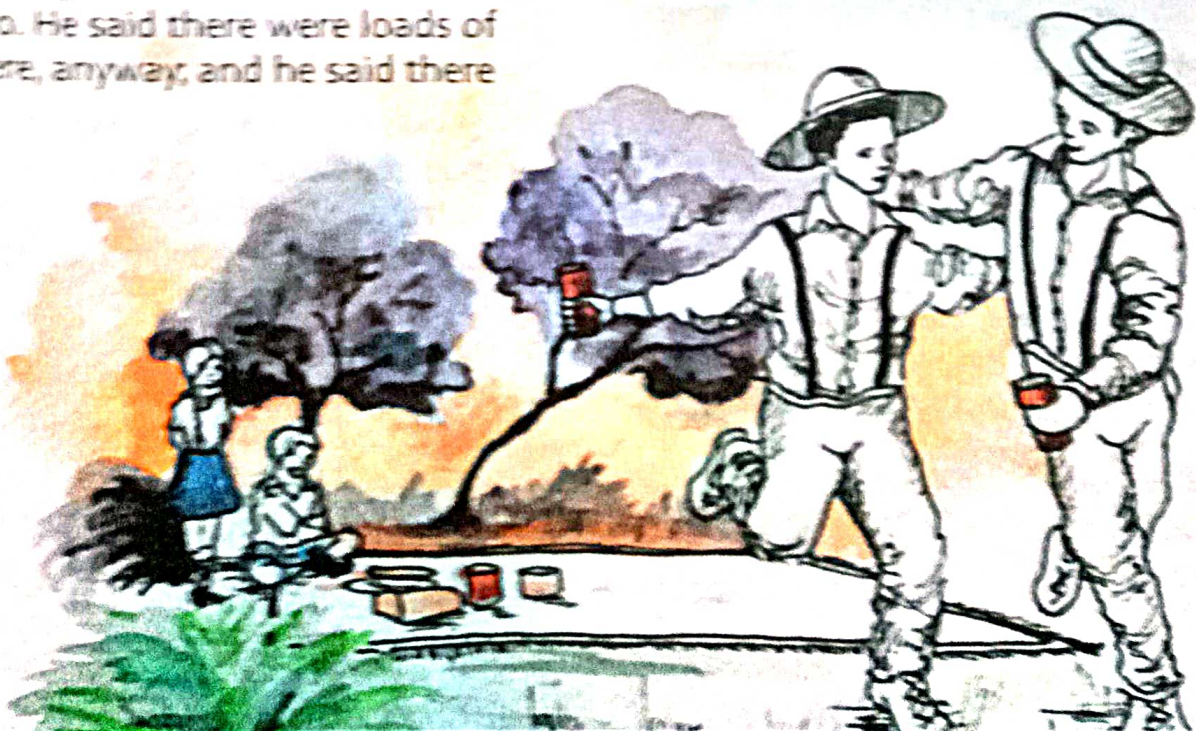
He said we must slick up our swords and guns, and get ready. He could never run even after a turnip-cart but he must have the swords and guns all **scoured** for it, though they were only laths and broomsticks. I didn't believe we could lick such a crowd of Spaniards and Arabs. But I wanted to see the camels and elephants, so I was in the plan next day, Saturday, lying in the ambush; and when we got the word we rushed out of the woods and down the hill.

But there weren't any Spaniards and Arabs, and there weren't any camels or elephants. It wasn't anything but a Sunday-school picnic, and only a primary class at that. We busted it up, and chased the children up the hollow; but we never got anything but some doughnuts and jam, though Ben Rogers got a rag doll, and Joe Harper got a hymn book and a tract, and then the teacher charged in, and made us drop everything and run. I didn't see any diamonds, and I told Tom Sawyer so. He said there were loads of them there, anyway, and he said there

were Arabs there, too, and elephants and things. I said, why couldn't we see them, then? He said if I weren't so ignorant, and had read a book called *Don Quixote*, I would have known without asking. He said it was all done by enchantment. He said there were hundreds of soldiers there, and elephants. There was a mountain of treasure, he said. But we had enemies which he called magicians, and they had turned the whole thing into an infant Sunday-school, just out of spite. I said, all right; then the thing for us to do was to go for the magicians. Tom Sawyer said I was a **numskull**.

'Why?' said he. 'A magician could call up a lot of genies, and they would hash you up like nothing, before you could

scoured: searched
numskull: a stupid person



say Jack Robinson. They are as tall as a tree and as big around as a church.'

'Well,' I said, 'suppose we got some genies to help us?'

'How're you going to get them?'

'I don't know. How do they get them?'

'Why, they rub an old tin lamp or an iron ring, and then the genies come tearing in, with the thunder and lightning ripping around and the smoke rolling, and everything they're told to do, they are up and do it. They don't think twice before pulling a tree up by the roots or belting a superintendent of police over the head—or any other man.'

'Who makes them tear around so?'

'Why, whoever rubs the lamp or the ring. They belong to whoever rubs the lamp or the ring, and they've got to do whatever he says. If he tells them to build a palace forty miles long out of diamonds, and fill it with chewing-gum, or whatever you want, and fetch an emperor's daughter from China for you to marry, they've got to do it—and they've got to do it before the sunrise next morning, too.'

And more: they've got to build that palace wherever you want it, you understand.'

'Well,' I said, 'I think they are a pack of flatheads for not keeping the palace themselves. And what's more—if I were one of them I would not drop my business and come



Brainstorm

What happens when the genies come tearing in?

to serve a person just because he happened to rub an old tin lamp.'

'How you talk, Huckleberry Finn! You would have to appear when he rubbed it, whether you wanted to or not.'

'What! And I as high as a tree and as big as a church? All right, then; I would appear, but I bet I'd make that man climb the highest tree there was in the country.'

'Shucks, it isn't any use to talk to you, Huck Finn. You don't seem to know anything, somehow—perfect **pinhead**.'

I thought all this over for two or three days, and then I reckoned I would see if there was anything in it. I got an old tin lamp and an iron ring, and went out in the woods and rubbed and rubbed till I was sweating profusely, calculating to build a palace and sell it; but it wasn't any use, none of the genies appeared. So then, I judged that all that stuff was only just one of Tom Sawyer's lies.

pinhead: an idiot

CONSE

A1. Mark

1. Tom S
- 'jewel
2. Spani
- in Cav
3. Ben R
4. Tom s
- David
5. Genie
6. Huck
7. Tom !

A2. Ans

1. Which
2. What
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A3. Thi

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A4. Lea

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CONSOLIDATE

A1. Mark these sentences as true (T) or false (F).

1. Tom Sawyer called the turnips 'gold bricks' and coins 'jewellery'.
2. Spanish merchants and rich Arabs were going to camp in Cave Hollow.
3. Ben Rogers got a rag doll and Joe Harper got a hymn book.
4. Tom said Huck Finn should have read the book called *David Copperfield*.
5. Genies would build a palace wherever a person wanted.
6. Huck Finn would make a man climb the highest mountain.
7. Tom Sawyer is a proficient liar.



Read and Answer

A2. Answer these questions.

1. Which game did Huck and his friends invent?
2. What was the blazing stick a sign for?
3. What did Huck find instead of Spaniards and Arabs?
4. What happened at the Sunday-school picnic?
5. What reason did Tom give Huck for not being able to see the diamonds and Arabs?
6. What did Huck do to see if Tom was telling the truth? What did he find?

A3. Think and answer.

Tom was a proficient liar. Do you think it takes a lot of imagination to be a good liar?

A4. Learn Interesting Terms

Huckleberry Finn is the main character in the extract that you read. In other words, he is the hero of the story. A character who plays the most important role in a story is called its **protagonist**. On the other hand, the villain or the main opponent of a protagonist in a story is called an **antagonist**.

protagonist
antagonist

Think of any three books or stories that you have read and complete the given table.

	Title	Protagonist	Antagonist
1.			
2.			
3.			

CREATE

B. Choose the correct word from the given options to replace the highlighted words. One has been done for you.



- Tom said that Huck Finn was a **stupid person**.
 - numskull
 - enthusiastic
 - antagonist
 - lousy
- He loved birds and devoted his life to **the study of birds**.
 - ornithology
 - zoology
 - anthropology
 - etymology
- The farmer had reaped a good harvest and his **storehouse for grain** was full.
 - granary
 - grain
 - garage
 - storeroom
- The farmer sprayed **medicine to kill pests** to protect his crops.
 - germicide
 - herbicide
 - pestilence
 - pesticide
- The gang was caught with a bagful of **rings and necklaces**.
 - suitcase
 - jewellery
 - cupboard
 - bracelet
- She used a **magic spell** to conjure a spirit.
 - enchantment
 - magician
 - dictionary
 - speech



Read these sentences.

- It wasn't **anything** but a Sunday-school picnic.
- I said, all right; then the thing for **us** to do was to go for the magicians.

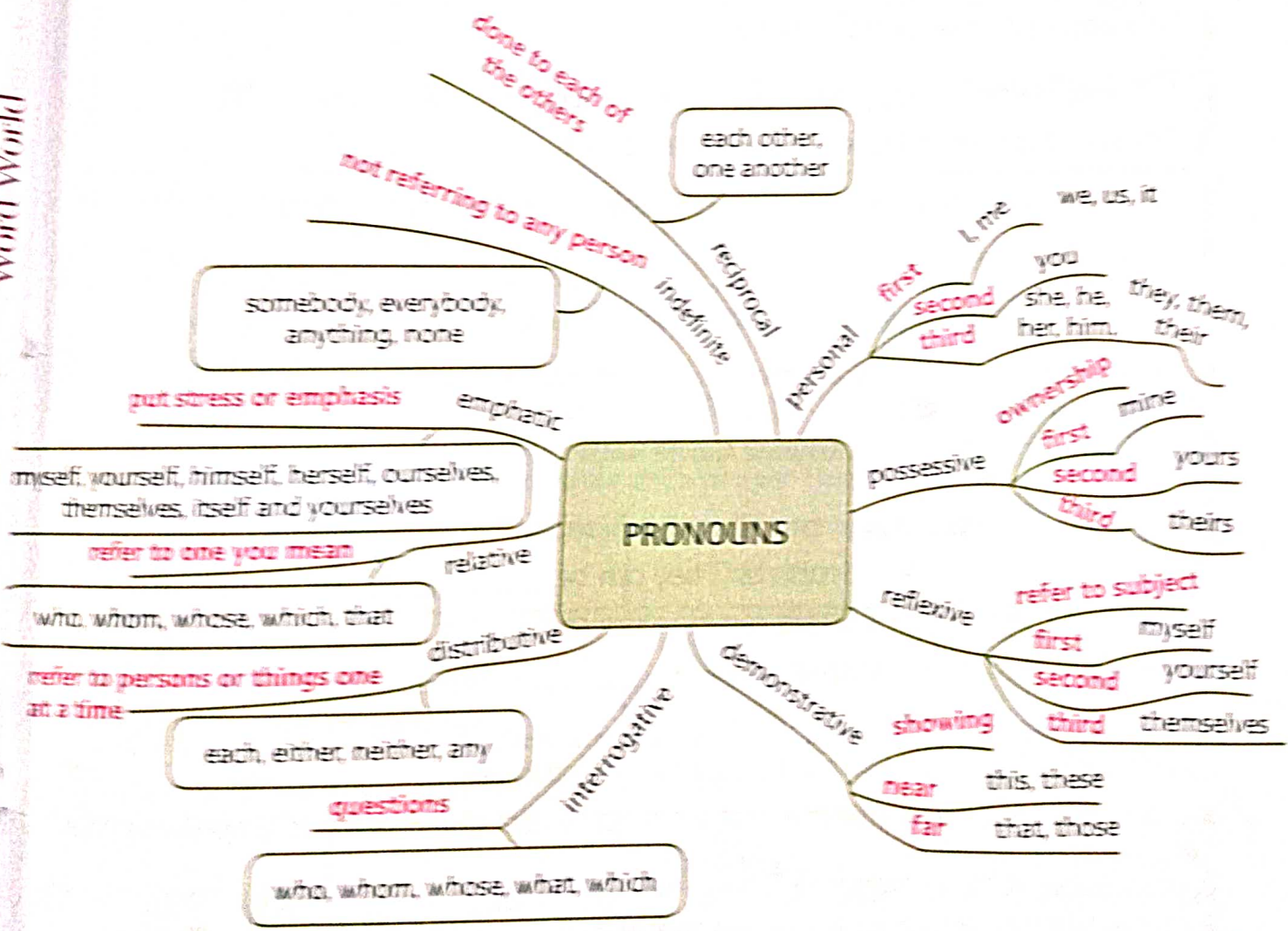
The letters/words highlighted in the above sentences are pronouns.

We have already learnt about pronouns. Let's quickly revise them.

Pronouns are the words that replace nouns.

Study the given chart.

Word World



Underline the pronouns and state their types.

Why, whoever rubs the lamp or the ring, They belong to whoever rubs the lamp or the ring, and they've got to do whatever he says. If he tells them to build a palace forty miles long, out of diamonds, and fill it full of chewing-gum, or whatever they want, and fetch an emperor's daughter from China for you to marry, they've got to do it -- and they've got to do it before the sunrise next morning, too. And me, they've got to build that palace wherever you want it, you understand.

C2. The given sentences have errors. Find the errors and correct them.

1. My mother and me went shopping on Sunday.
2. This book and that laptop are my.
3. The dog recognises it's red collar.
4. The steward whom served we was very polite.
5. The police arrested his for traffic violation.
6. Do you know everyone who can help us?
7. Give this to the boy which wins the tournament.
8. The streets of Old Delhi are more crowded than that of South Delhi.

C3. It's time to play the Grammar Game with the help of your teacher.

D. Listen to the paragraph and fill in the blanks.

Genies are _____ creatures. They can be _____ to human eye. Sometimes a Genie can take the shape of a _____. Some other mythological creatures are _____ and _____. A mermaid is an _____ creature with an upper body of a female human and a tail of a fish. A _____ is a creature with a head and torso of a human and a lower body of a horse. On the other hand, a _____ is a tree _____.



E. When we talk about a **career**, we talk about:

1. required skills
2. nature of work
3. working hours
4. remuneration
5. growth options



Career talks introduce students to various occupations within different industries as well as the natures and scopes of the jobs done. It aims to educate them on the skills necessary to perform certain job functions.

Get into groups of four and deliver a career talk. You can choose a career on your own or speak on any one of the given options.

- organic farming
- hotel management
- engineering
- medicine
- teaching

Remember to include the 5 points necessary for a career talk.



F1. Study the table to learn about the basic difference between the stress in nouns and verbs.

Rule	Example
1. Stress the first syllable of most two-syllable nouns.	• climate, knowledge
2. Stress the last syllable of most two-syllable verbs.	• require, decide

Read aloud the words given in the table with proper stress.

NOUN	VERB	NOUN	VERB
increase	increase	record	record
export	export	protest	protest
discount	discount	rebel	rebel
conflict	conflict	update	update

F2. Write down five more such pairs, identify their stress patterns and read the words aloud.



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a palace,
ever you
ve got
d more:

CC

Listening Power

Talk Time

Fun with Phonics