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## Grade 8 Reading Comprehension Worksheet The Adventure of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.  
At half-past nine that night, Tom and Sid were went to bed as usual. They said their prayers, and Sid was soon asleep. Tom lay awake and waited in restless impatience. When it seemed to him that it must be nearly daylight, he heard the clock strike ten. This was despair. He would have tossed and fidgeted, as his nerves demanded, but he was afraid he might wake Sid. So he lay still and stared up into the dark. Everything was dimly still. By-and-by, out of the stillness little, scarcely perceptible noises began to emphasize themselves. The ticking of the clock began to bring itself into notice. Old beams began to crack mysteriously. The stars creaked faintly. Evidently spells were abroad. A muffled, muffled snore issued from Aunt Polly's chamber. And now the tiresome chirping of a cricket that no human ingenuity could locate began. Next the ghostly licking of a death-watch in the wall at the bed's head made Tom shudder. It meant that somebody's days were numbered. Then the howl of a far-off dog rose on the night air and was answered by a fainter howl from a remoter distance. Tom was in an agony. At last he was satisfied that time has ceased and eternity began; he began to doze in spite of himself, the clock chimed eleven, but he did not hear it, and then there came, mingling with his half-formed dreams, a most misanthropic catervauling. The raising of a neighbouring window disturbed him. A cry of "Sca! You devil!" and the crash of an empty bottle against the back of his aunt's wood-shed brought him wide awake and a single minute later he was dressed and out of the window and creeping along the roof of the "ell" on all fours. He "meow'd" with caution once or twice as he went; then jump to the roof of the wood-shed and thence to the ground. Huckleberry Finn was there, with his dead cat. The boys moved off and disappeared in the gloom. At the end of half an hour they were wading through the tall grass of the graveyard.

### Answer the questions.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
2. Underline five sentences in the passage that support the idea.
3. Write a summary. Tell what is the most important.

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