

Dictation Exercises

Exercise one: Traditional Dictation

"He just knew his friends would make fun of him. Just then inspiration came upon him, and he intently started the task of whitewashing the fence. Ben Rodgers was the first boy to come along. He was chewing an apple and teasing Tom."

Exercise two: Dictogloss

Tom appeared on the sidewalk with a bucket of whitewash and a long-handled brush. He surveyed the fence, and the gladness went out of nature, and a deep melancholy settled down upon his spirit. Thirty yards of broad fence nine feet high! It seemed to him that life was hollow, and existence but a burden. Sighing he dipped his brush and passed it along the topmost plank; repeated the operation; did it again; compared the insignificant whitewashed streak with the far-reaching continent of unwhitewashed fence, and sat down on a tree-box discouraged.