Think about what Tom wants and how his attempt to achieve his goal causes trouble.

Which choice describes why a main character acts to change another's situation?

What problem does the guarded gate pose for Tom? What details show this problem? And how is the problem resolved?

Use the Hints on this page to help you answer the questions.

Which sentence best shows how one character can set the events of a story in motion?

A. "Tom's breath came quick and short with excitement, and his eyes grew big with wonder and delight."

B. "Everything gave way in his mind instantly to one desire: that was to get close to the prince . . ."

C. "The soldier said,—'Mind thy manners, thou young beggar!'"

D. "Within was a comely boy, tanned and brown with sturdy outdoor sports and exercises . . ."

Which sentence best describes how story events influence a main character's actions?

A. The prince sees Tom being mistreated by the soldier and takes pity on him.

B. At first the crowd jeers and laughs, but then they snatch off their hats and begin to cheer for the prince.

C. The soldiers make certain that Tom and the prince remain separated by the gate.

D. The country gawkers and London idlers shame the prince into doing something to help Tom.

In this passage, the setting of the guarded gate is an important cause of the main conflict. Write a paragraph supporting this idea. Use at least two details from the passage to support your response.

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