

## 2. The Ransom of Red Chief

### Worksheet

Name: .....

Class: .....

Date: .....

#### A. Answer the following questions.

- a. Which part of the United States of America is this story set in?
- b. Why did the two men decide to kidnap someone?
- c. What is the first sign we have in the story that the kidnappers have picked a difficult 'victim'?
- d. What do we learn about Ebenezer Dorset?
- e. What other crimes have Sam and Bill committed?
- f. What do we learn about Johnny Dorset?
- g. What games did Johnny play?
- h. Why did Bill try to release Johnny before they had the ransom?
- i. How did Sam and Bill get Johnny to go home?

j. Where did Bill say that he would get to in 10 minutes?

k. Is that possible? What does he mean?

**These questions are more difficult. Discuss them first.**

l. What effect did Johnny have on the two men?

m. Which characters do you feel sympathy for? Why?

**B. Answer the following questions with reference to context.**

a. *At last, I fell into a troubled sleep, and dreamed that I had been kidnapped and chained to a tree by a ferocious pirate with red hair.*

a. Who is this about?

b. Why is his sleep ‘troubled’?

c. Why is this a strange dream for this character to be having?

b. *I think Mr. Dorset is generous for making us such an offer.*

a. Who is the speaker and to whom are the words addressed?

b. Who is Mr. Dorset and what is his offer?

c. Why is this offer unusual in this situation?