

The Two Live Oaks

1. Firstly, put in order the things that the children find in the knot-hole in the tree.

Two small figures carved in soap
Two shiny pennies
Two sticks of chewing gum
A medal
A whole packet of chewing gum
Ball of twine
A pocketwatch that does not work and an aluminium knife

2. How significant do you think the order of the objects' appearances is?
3. Do you notice anything else that might be considered important in the objects? Think about the number of items left, their interest to children or adults, the effort that might have gone into finding, adapting, cleaning or creating them.
4. Who do you think leaves them for the children?
5. What reasons do the children think of for someone putting the objects in the tree?
6. Why do you think the items are left in the tree?
7. What stops the delivery/collection of items from the oak?
8. Why do you think the person does this?
9. What is Tom's reaction to what happens and why do you think he behaves in this way?
10. Is Scout's reporting of the incident surprising? Do you believe she felt the same way as her brother? Give reasons for your ideas.