

To Kill a Mockingbird
By Harper Lee
 Advanced Study Guide

Name _____

Chapters 1-3

1. Identify Atticus Finch, Jean Louise (Scout) Finch, Jem Finch, Maycomb, Calpurnia, Charles Baker (Dill) Harris, The Radley Place, Stephanie Crawford, Arthur (Boo) Radley, Miss Caroline Fisher, Walter Cunningham, and Burris Ewell.
 Atticus Finch –
 Jean Louise (Scout) Finch –
 Jem –
 Maycomb –
 Calpurnia –
 Charles Baker (Dill) Harris –
 The Radley Place –
 Stephanie Crawford –
 Arthur (Boo) Radley –
 Miss Caroline Fisher –
 Walter Cunningham –
 Burris Ewell –
2. What did Dill dare Jem to do?
3. Scout describes the setting of the town in detail. Briefly explain Maycomb below.
4. Analyze the effectiveness of the figurative language:

Text	Effectiveness
<p>“Jem figured that Mr. Radley kept him chained to the bed most of the time. Atticus said no, it wasn’t that sort of thing, that there were other ways of making people into ghosts.”</p>	

5. What was Scout’s first “crime” at school?
6. How is Scout different from her classmates – what sticks out about her identity? What does that reveal about her and her situation?
7. What was Calpurnia’s fault?
8. Why did Scout rub Walter Cunningham’s nose in the dirt?
9. Scout said, “He ain’t company, Cal, he’s just a Cunningham.” What did she mean by that and what was Cal’s answer?
10. Miss Caroline’s status as an outsider is the cause of several conflicts. Explain how her ignorance of Maycomb ways causes these conflicts. Provide two examples.
 - 1.
 - 2.
11. Why didn’t the Ewells have to go to school?
12. Atticus teaches Scout an important lesson after her first day of school? What is that lesson? Provide the actual quote to support.

Chapters 4-7

1. Identify Mrs. Dubose.
2. How did Jem get even with Scout for contradicting him about “Hot Steams?”
3. What was the Boo Radley game?
4. Who do you think was laughing in the house during the tire incident? Why do you think Scout keeps that information to herself?
5. Characterize Miss Maudie. Use her actions, words, and Scout’s descriptions.
6. What does Miss Maudie think of the Radleys?
7. Interpret the following quote: “sometimes the Bible in the hand of one man is worse than a whiskey bottle in the hand of [another].”
8. Why do Dill and Jem want to give Boo Radley a note? What does Atticus say when he finds out about their plan?
9. How did Jem lose his pants? What did he find when he went back for them?
10. What else did Jem and Scout find in the Radley’s tree?
11. Why do you think Mr. Radley filled the knothole with cement? Describe how his POV might affect his actions.
12. Why does Jem cry at the end of Chapter 7?

Chapters 8-9

1. How does the setting change in the beginning of the chapter? How does this change affect the neighborhood?
2. Why do you think Boo "joined" the community that night? What was his purpose and what does it say about his character? How might our views of his identity have changed?
3. Identify Cecil Jacobs.
4. Why is Atticus defending Tom Robinson, and what does that say about his character?
5. What "disaster" happened at Christmas between Scout and Francis?
6. Describe the differences of point of view between Uncle Jack and Scout with the altercation with Francis.

Scout	Uncle Jack
Who is right in this situation? Why? Opinion.	

7. What do you think Atticus means when he says, "I hope and pray I can get Jem and Scout through it without bitterness, and most of all, without catching Maycomb's usual disease"? What is Maycomb's usual disease?

Note: More of the tonal shift of the story. Children are beginning to be confronted with more adult problems and concerns. Instead of imaginary fears, real ones are on the horizon. Tone and mood getting more serious, anxious. Now we know about Tom Robinson case and that adds suspense. As we keep learning more and more about the case, the suspense is building.

Chapters 10-11

1. Interpret the following quote:

	What does it mean?	How does it relate to the novel?
"Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird."		

Note: Do you think it is a coincidence that in a book called *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the main characters are named "Finch"? What is a finch? What kind of a bird is a finch? Predator? A finch is a small bird, so naming Jem and Scout "Finch" shows their vulnerability; their innocence is going to be particularly vulnerable.

2. How do the children react to Atticus's hidden identity? How does their perspective change?
3. What did Jem do when Mrs. Dubose said "*Atticus lawed for n***** and trash?*"
4. What was Jem's punishment?
5. What is courage according to Atticus? Answer and use an example(s)... (hint: Mrs. Dubose, Tom) What does Jem learn from his encounter with Mrs. Dubose and following her death?

Chapters 12-14

1. In what ways does Jem show more maturity in this chapter? Provide 2 examples.
2. To this point, we've only read about instances of black characters encroaching on white characters' property, life, etc. How does this new perspective shed light on the relationship between blacks and whites?
3. Explain how Cal has two identities. Do you think it's possible for this to happen in real life? Why do you think she leads her life two different ways?

4. "Aunt Alexandra fitted into the world of Maycomb like a hand in a glove, but never into the world of Jem and me." Explain this.
5. Atticus and Alexandra disagree about how to deal with the children. How does Atticus handle the situation?
6. Explain how Scout still shows signs of immaturity, and explain how Jem shows how he is growing up.
7. What is the root conflict Dill has with his family? What effect does this have on Dill?

Chapters 15-17

1. What does Mr. Link Deas mean when he says, "Don't know why you touched it in the first place... You've got everything to lose from this, Atticus. I mean everything"?
2. What events may be foreshadowed by his comment?
3. What was the purpose of Walter Cunningham's mob?
4. Why did Mr. Cunningham's mob leave?
5. How does Jem explain the identities of Mr. Dolphus Raymond's children? According to Jem, what conflict do they face?
6. According to a townsman, what is Maycomb's conflict with Atticus's involvement in the trial? What do they expect him to do and is that ethical? Connect this to the theme.
7. Identify: Tom Robinson –
Mr. Gilmer –
Bob Ewell –
Mayella Ewell –
Judge Taylor –
8. Atticus takes much interest in Mayella's bruises, what could this possibly foreshadow?
9. How is the description of the Ewell house effective in characterizing the family?
10. What does Atticus suspect of Bob Ewell? Based on this information, how do you think the case will turn out in the end?

Chapters 18-21

1. What was Mayella's account of the incident with Tom Robinson? What details from Mayella's testimony would leave one to believe that she is lying? Find the details and interpret what we learn about them.
2. What was Tom's account of the incident? What description of Tom Robinson is most important? What does that tell the reader about the testimonies so far?
3. Why was it a mistake to say that he felt sorry for Mayella? How do you think that will affect the jury?

Note: Link Deas loses it and shouts out in court, defending Tom Robinson. Didn't understand why Atticus took this case, but there he is making a scene defending Tom Robinson. Another person who isn't what he appeared to be.

Note: Why does Dill cry? Dill being between Jem and Scout in age is just beginning to recognize that things are not quite right. He can't quite figure it out yet, but he is deeply bothered by the cruel treatment Mr. Gilmer is giving to Tom Robinson on the stand. He is not as affected as Jem, but he is beginning to have some awareness. Also this is where Scout makes the comment that shocks us because we do not think of her as a racist, "Well, Dill, after all he is just a Negro." Does this mean she has been a closet racist the entire time? No, it just means that she is too young to question why society is the way that it is. Part of the brilliance of the book is how it shows us the difference in perspectives of the three children, perspectives that come from their different levels of maturity.

4. What do we learn about Mr. Raymond? Do you agree with his decision to deceive people?
Opinion but support it with textual evidence.

5. What were Atticus' closing remarks to the jury?

Chapters 22-25

1. Why did Jem cry?
2. What was "round the back steps" when Calpurnia came in on TUESDAY morning?
3. What was the significance of Maudie's two little cakes and one large one?
4. Miss Maudie cites the trial as a baby step. What does she mean? What is our author trying to say about the morals of an individual and community?
5. What is Atticus' reaction to Ewell's threats?
6. Why does Aunt Alexandra not want Scout to associate with Walter Cunningham? Provide an example to support your answer.
7. Jem said, "I think I'm beginning to understand why Boo Radley's stayed shut up in the house all this time. . . it's because he wants to stay inside." Why does he say that?
8. How is Mrs. Merriweather a hypocrite? Provide an example to support your answer.
9. What happened to Tom Robinson?
10. What more do we learn about Alexandra after Atticus and Calpurnia leave?

Note: What is up with Jem and the roly-poly at the beginning of chapter 25?

After everything that has happened, Jem is now sensitive to cruelty to the weak and innocent. Just because Scout can easily kill the bug, it isn't "bothering" her, so why should she take its life? The roly-poly is a mockingbird.

11. What did Mr. Underwood's editorial say? Explain how Tom symbolizes a mockingbird. Connect this symbol to our theme of compassion, race, and morals.

Chapters 26-31

1. What was Scout's fantasy regarding Arthur (Boo) Radley?

2. In class, Miss Gates said:

3. What happened to Judge Taylor?

4. What happened to Helen Robinson?

5. What is foreshadowed at the end of the chapter? What do you think will happen next?

Opinion. We will find out FINALLY how Jem broke his elbow.

6. Why did Scout and Jem not leave the school until almost everyone else had gone?

7. What happened to Jem and Scout on the way home from the pageant?

8. Who saved Jem and Scout? Who died? Who was the killer?

9. Why did Heck Tate *insist* that Bob Ewell fell on his own knife?(think carefully)

How is this a HUGE crisis of conscience for Atticus?

10. Scout arranged things so that "if Miss Stephanie Crawford was watching from her upstairs window, she would see Arthur Radley escorting [her] down the sidewalk, as any gentleman would do." Why did she do that?

11. As Scout leaves the Radley porch, she looks out at the neighborhood and recounts the events of the last few years from the Radleys' perspective. Why is that so important?

Note: Book ends optimistically. Scout still believes in the goodness of people. Thinks "nothin's real scary except in books."

Theme: People aren't always as they appear. Boo certainly wasn't when you think of how he was presented at the beginning of the book.

Goodness exists in unexpected places.