

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

***To Kill A Mockingbird*—Comprehension Questions**

READING SECTION #1 CHAPTERS 1-5

1. Describe the following characters/places:

- a. Atticus Finch—
- b. Jean Louise (Scout) Finch—
- c. Jem Finch—
- d. Maycomb—
- e. Calpurnia—
- f. Charles Baker (Dill) Harris—
- g. The Radley Place—
- h. Stephanie Crawford—
- i. Arthur (Boo) Radley—
- j. Miss Caroline Fisher—
- k. Walter Cunningham—
- l. Burris Ewell—

2. What did Dill dare Jem to do?

3. What was Scout's first crime at school?

4. What was Calpurnia's fault?
5. Why did Scout rub Walter Cunningham's nose in dirt?
6. Scout said, "He ain't company, Cal, he's just a Cunningham." What did she mean by that and what was Cal's answer?
7. What two mistakes did Miss Caroline make on the first day of school?
8. Why didn't the Ewell's have to go to school?
9. What did Scout and Jen find in the Radley's tree?
10. Describe Mrs. Dubose.
11. How did Jem get even with Scout for contradicting him about "Hot Steams"?
12. What was the Boo Radley game?

13. Describe Miss Maudie.

14. What does Miss Maudie think of the Radleys?

15. Why did Dill and Jem want to give Boo Radley a note?

16. What does Atticus say when he finds out about their plan?

READING SECTION #2—CHAPTERS 6-11

1. How did Jem lose his pants? What did he find when he went back for them? What do you think that means?

2. What else did Jem and Scout find in the Radley's tree

3. Why would there be no more surprises in the trees? What do you think that means?

4. What happened to Miss Maudie's house? What was her reaction?

5. Who came to visit Scout and Jem for Christmas?

6. Describe Cecil Jacobs.
7. What "disaster" happened at Christmas between Scout and Francis? Why did it happen?
8. What did Scout's Uncle Jack learn from Scout and Atticus?
9. What brave thing does Atticus do in Chapter 10? Why are Scout and Jem shocked?
10. Describe Atticus's character. Discuss the qualities that he possesses and the kind of man he is.
(Hint: find specific passages/scenes to back-up/explain description)
11. What did Jem do when Mrs. Dubose said Atticus "lawed for niggers?"
12. What was Jem's punishment?
13. Do you think it is fair for Atticus to punish him? Explain your answer.

14. What did Jem learn from his encounter with Mrs. Dubose and following her death?

READING SECTION #3—CHAPTERS 12-19

1. What information do we learn about the condition of Alabama at this time?
2. Describe Lula, Zeebo, and Reverend Sykes.
3. What does Scout learn about Calpurnia?
4. Who was waiting for the children when they came home from the church service? Why had she come?
5. “Aunt Alexandra fitted into the world of Maycomb like a hand in a glove, but never into the world of Jem and me.” Explain what this means.
6. Find an example of foreshadowing at the end of Chapter 13. What is Harper Lee foreshadowing?
7. When Alexandra said, “You’ve got to do something about her,” to whom did she refer? What did she want Atticus to do? How did Atticus react?
8. What did Jem do that “broke the remaining code of childhood?” What do you think this proves about Jem in relation to Scout?
9. Why do you think Dill was constantly making up tall tales?

10. What did Heck Tate want from Atticus?

11. What was the purpose of Walter Cunningham's mob?

12. Why did Cunningham's mob leave?

13. Describe how Dolphus Raymond is different from the rest of Maycomb.

14. Describe:

a. Tom Robinson—

b. Mr. Gilmer—

c. Bob Ewell—

d. Mayella Ewell

e. Judge Taylor—

15. What was the importance of Mayella's bruises being primarily on the right-hand side of her face?

16. What was Mayella's account of the incident with Tom Robinson?

17. What was Tom's side of the story?

18. Why did Mr. Gilmer refer to Tom as "boy?"

19. What do Dill and Scout learn from Mr. Raymond?

READING SECTION #4—CHAPTERS 20-31

1. What were Atticus's closing remarks to the jury?

2. What was the jury's verdict?

3. Do you think Atticus was surprised by the verdict? Explain.

4. Why were Scout, Jem, and Dill told to stand as Atticus left the court house?

5. Why did Jem cry?

6. What was "round the back steps" when Calpurnia came in on Monday morning?

7. What was the significance of Maudie's two little cakes and one large one?

8. Describe Bob Ewell's meeting with Atticus at the post office.

9. What is Atticus's reaction to Ewell's threats?

10. Why doesn't Alexandra want Scout playing with Walter Cunningham?

11. Jem said, "I think I'm beginning to understand why Boo Radley's stayed shut up in the house all the time...it's because he wants to stay inside." Why does he say that? What does he mean?

12. Mrs. Merriweather of the missionary circle complains about her cooks and field hands. What does this tell us about her?

13. What happened to Tom Robinson?

14. What did Mrs. Underwood's editorial say?

15. What was Scout's fantasy regarding Boo Radley?

16. What did Scout hear Miss Gates say at the courthouse? In class, Miss Gates said, “That’s the difference between America and Germany. We are a democracy and Germany is a dictatorship...We don’t believe in persecuting anybody. Persecution comes from people who are prejudiced.” What does this tell us about Miss Gates?

17. What happened to Judge Taylor? What happened to Helen Robinson?

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

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

20. Who saved them?

21. Why did Heck Tate insist that Bob Ewell fell on his own knife? Explain why Scout compares that situation to the “killing of a mockingbird.”

22. Scout arranges 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 does she do this? And what does this reveal to the reader about Scout’s growth and development by the end of the novel?