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## What year setting of to kill a mockingbird

The novel is located in the 1930s in a small community in Maycomb County, located in the south. Although slavery has been legally abolished for many years, Southerners in Maycomb continue to believe in white supremacy, and the novel projects social snobs and prejudices associated with these Southern values. The main characters of Atticus Finch highly respected and responsible citizen of Maycomb County. He's the father of Scout and Jem. A lawyer by profession, he is very special about achieving justice. Dear daughter of scout Finch Atticus. An impulsive girl by nature, she still rushes into fights and is more emotional than her brother. Jem Finch He is a son who is deeply motivated to follow his father's steps. An important idea of maturity is well portrayed in his character, as he gains maturity by the end of the novel. Arthur Radley He is called the 'Boo' scout and Jem. He is a mysterious character who never steps out of his house, nor maintains any relationship with the townspeople. Nevertheless, he attempts an indirect friendship with children. He is a pathetic figure in his need for love and attention. Bob Ewell is an uncultured, uncultural, inherently bad character who drinks all the money to relieve, beats up his children and has no qualms about going to murder to restore his lost dignity among community members. Smaller characters aunt Alexandra Atticus' sister who comes to live with them because it seemed necessary that there should be some female influence in the house. Aunt Alexandra seems too strict and forbids at the outset, but later her sheer honesty was revealed. Calpurnia's family is a black housekeeper who has cared for the family since the children lost their mother. Her presence has largely contributed to shaping the childish character. Dill's closest friend of both Jem and Scout. Thanks to the usual weaving of long fantasies, he reveals that he is a child, deprived of love and attention. Mr. Radley, their neighbor. He is a relentless father in that he punishes Boo for strict solitary incarceration. He is a complete contrast to Atticus in the role of father. Miss Stephanie Crawford Their neighbour and local gossip can't help trying to be the first to go through gossip or speculate on any piece of gossip. Nathan Radley's older brother Boo Radley. He shares some of his father's cruel qualities. Ms. Maudie is a confidante of children who always takes pains to explain to children the human character and its whims. Mayella Ewell Bob is a young daughter who, in her search for company and affection, puts the innocent Tom Robinson in deep trouble. Tom Robinson a young black worker. He is sincere and helpful, but he is unfairly convicted and even found guilty of a crime he did not commit. Inequality towards blacks peaks in treatment given to them White. The Cunningham family are what they call 'poor whites', but they are decent self-esteem, hardworking people who always try to pay off their debts in any way possible. Mr. Heck Tate Maycomb County Sheriff, who is an honest and respected man of society. At the end of the novel, he used his discretion over Bob Ewell's death to spare a lot of unnecessary speculation. Judge Taylor's seemingly lethargic and disinterested judge for the case, Tom Robinson - Mayella, but who underneath, is a very vigilant and perceptive judge. Ms. Dubose's bitter tongue, gaudy old neighbor Atticus, presents herself as an irritating and corrosive woman for children, but who is indeed a very strong-wanted and considerate man. Page 2 The protagonist of the novel is Atticus Finch, who is the principal initiator and coordinator of various events in the novel. In his engagement with poor white communities like Walter Cunningham, as well as deprived blacks, like Tom Robinson, he is portrayed as a just, honest and very considerate human being. He has clear-cut values and beliefs, and it is his sincere desire that his children grow up too much with a broad perspective and an unassuming way of thinking. He is indifferent to what others say or think about his actions, and he is steadfast in his belief in equality and freedom. Antagonist Bob Ewell serves as the perfect villain in the novel, with his carefree way of life and the utter disrespect he has for other human beings. In the beginning he comes across only as a Slovak figure, carefree about his family and cheeky in his dealings with others. But after an episode of Tom Robinson, it is alarming to discover him an obnoxious, flamboyant nogooder who has no qualms about sending an innocent bystander to the gallows. Even after winning the event, he realized he had lost respect in people (because of Atticus), even trying to harm Atticus' children, thus leaving no iota sympathy for himself in the reader. The climax of Events in the Novel builds on the extraordinarily important and climactic scenes of the courtroom, where Atticus tries to defend Tom Robinson from accusing Bob and Mayella Ewell. Tensions are maintained during the trial over whether or not Atticus would win the case. Although the audience feels strongly about Tom's situation and it is clear that he is innocent, the jury will deliver a verdict that Tom is guilty. The immediate response to this is extremely disappointing and dejection, but the jury's verdict is final. The result of the most surprising and touching thing is that instead of reprimanding Atticus for losing the case, the black community showers him with food, as a gesture of their appreciation for having at least taken over the case and defended Tom. Tom's obviously the most upset, but Atticus only silent and exhausted. When Ewell realized his lost position in the community, he was trying to make life miserable, first for Helen Robinson, Tom's widow, and then even Atticus. Eventually he will take up damage to Scout and Jem, but in the process he loses his own life. At the same time, Scout's long treasured dream of meeting Boo Radley is also fulfilled. Both the study reveals a number of random and expected results. A review of Mockingbird's novel To Kill a Spin revolves mainly around a small family of three - Atticus Finch, a lawyer, and his two children, Scout and Jem. As the novel goes on some characters are associated with three main characters to form a dramatic story of events, attitudes, prejudices and values. The novel is set in the quiet town of Maycomb; but the peace is only superficial. The city consists of three communities: white people, black communities and white trash. Outwardly, there is peace between the three, but beneath is a combination of hostility, racial prejudice and friendliness. Jem and Scout go to school together. On the way to school, they pass the house Radley; it's a scary place for them because of the houses of Boo Radley, who has been labeled a lunatic. At the same time, their curiosity pushes them to try ways for Boo to come out of the house. Their overtures, however, are suppressed by Atticus, who doesn't want to torment Boo. The main plot of the novel revolves around a trial in which Atticus defends Tom Robinson, a black man who has been accused of molesting a white girl, Mayella Ewell. She is part of the 'white-trash' community. The children follow the case adlessly and are dissative when their father loses the case. The case is lost simply because it was still impossible (despite the laws to protect them) for a black man to achieve victory over whites in the South. This sufficiency reveals the deep-seated racial prejudice still prevalent among white society, which cannot give equal status to blacks. The relationship between the children and Boo Radley resurfaces at the end when it is Boo who saves them from imminent death at the hands of the vicious Bob Ewell. It is ultimately revealed that Boo is not a lunatic but a simple-minded person with that health and childish attachment for Scout and Tom. The story of the mockingbird recited by Atticus is associated with the theme of the novel. It is considered a sin to kill a mockingbird because it is a harmless bird that only chants to please others. Boo Radley and Tom Robinson are harmless people, too. By letting Tom die, the sin of killing a bemisied bird was committed. But by not revealing the facts of Boo's heroism in saving children, sin is avoided, and Boo is left to his seclusion. Tom's death is a defeat of justice and an affront to humanity, and readers can judge themselves, how much sin it is. The mature Scout and Jim are portrayed, as well as the exemplary character of Atticus, who is free of racial prejudice or biased opinions. He is a highly ethical character who decides to fight against the 'old traditions' of his own community. Page 3 The main and fundamental theme of the novel is black slavery, its abolition and the consequent lack of acceptance in the Southern community. Harper Lee portrayed a deep-set traditional way of thinking of South Americans who are unable to accept that blacks have been released from bond slavery. So, even though outwardly there are no slaves, blacks have not yet been openly admitted to the white fold and are denied the equality they deserve and even have the right to. It is difficult and unacceptable for white people to regard them as the same. This theme has been illustrated while depicting the lifestyle of the black community and the various challenges faced by the white community. Smaller themes Along with the main theme, Harper Lee introduced smaller but no less important themes in the novel. The legend of the mockingbird, which only sings to please others and therefore the sense of sin associated with the filming of mockingbird, was intricately woven into the plot. Tom Robinson's death is likened to this sin, because Tom, too, was an innocent, harmless man who would never hurt anyone and his death was unnecessary. Similarly, when it is revealed that Arthur Radley is the one who killed Bob in saving children's lives, Mr Heck Tate refuses to hold him accountable because he believes it would invite unnecessary speculation, interest and undue attention to Boo Radley, who does not wish to. Bringing him into the limelight would again be like killing a suing bird, like Scout, very intelligently surmises. The theme of morality is also introduced. Morals such as love for human beings, the importance of living things, and an open attitude to the beliefs and actions of others are well demonstrated. These are other topics in the novel. The mood mood of the novel on a general level is light and humorous, especially when it comes to Scout impulsive action, Dill's antics and Jem's fraternal behavior. However, the underlying mood throughout the novel is somber and profound because some important issues are appreciated and addressed. Atticus' dealings with blacks, the negative attitudes of some other members of the community, the trial of Tom Robinson and its terrible ending, depicts the seriousness and serious reassessment of accepted norms that are expected of readers of the author. Harper Lee Biography Harper Lee was born April 28, 1926, in Monroeville, Alabama. She was the youngest daughter of three children, Amassa Coleman Lee and Francis Lee. She left school, Monroeville Public Schools, and later joined the University of Alabama to study law. Since she didn't finish her degree, she moved to New York. However, her experience and knowledge of the law helped her greatly in her writing. Harper Lee was part of a generation of writers that emerged after World War II. She wrote several essays and three short stories. On the advice of her literary agent, she expanded one of her stories into the novel To Kill a Mockingbird. It has been on the bestseller list for more than eighty weeks and won the Pulitzer Prize and the Alabama Library Association Award. Despite his success, Lee had no desire to write a sequel to the novel. Maycomb County, where her novel is set, closely resembles the place where Harper Lee was born and spent most of her life. Although she insists her novel is not autobiographical, her father was a lawyer and was the inspiration for Atticus Finch's character. Page 4 In this chapter, a brief introduction to the Finch family is given to scout. Simon Finch founded Finch's Landing on the banks of the Alabama River. A rich and prosperous man has died. One of his sons, Atticus, studied law; the other studied the medicine. Although both sons left Finch's Landing, Alexandra, their sister, stayed. Atticus practiced law in Maycomb, where he lived with his two children, Jem and Scout, and the chef, Calpurnia. Atticus' wife died when the children were young, and Scout barely remembers her. The boundaries for children roaming were Miss Henry Lafayette Dubose's house and Radley's house. Radley's house has always fascinated children with its creepy yokes. Children used to imagine that there used to be a vicious phantom in the house. In fact, Mr. and Mrs. Radley were a couple they kept to themselves. Their son, Boo Radley is believed by children to have maniacal tendencies and so is kept at home. The children played games around Radley's house and dared one another to touch the walls of the house to demonstrate how brave they are. Note: This chapter only gives the reader a glimpse of Maycomb's company and its inhabitants. The main characters are, of course, Atticus and his family. Scout, his daughter, tells the whole story in the first person. Since the whole novel is a story seen through scout's eyes, the visualization is purely from the perspective of a child. This includes a depiction of her morbidly fear of radley's house, about which she heard several stories that were disproportionate to local gossip. Description Boo, therefore, is larger than life one: he was six and a half meters tall, suing on the turn of squirrels - there was a long jagged scar that ran across his face; what teeth he had were yellow and rotten; his eyes popped and he drooled. The father's relationship with his children seems superficial -- he played with us, read to us, and treated us with a polite separation, but the fact that the children call him his name, and even later, as his outlook and behavior are revealed, but only point to the true love he has for his children. Dill is presented in the chapter. He is a child who seeks love in a family without love; it also tends to fantasise and exaggerate. During the novel, he turns out to be a good friend like Jem and Scout. Chapter 2 Scout is supposed to start school, and Jem is assigned to escort her on the first day. Jem makes it clear to Scout that she is staying with first graders and not trying to follow him or ask him to play with her. Scout is excited about her first day of school but is disillusioned because she is reprimanded for already knowing how to read and write. It turns out that Atticus and Calpurnia introduced her to reading and writing at a very early age, but the teacher is unable to see the authenticity of this experiment and feels it's just a hindrance to further learning. When a scout tries to explain why Walter Cunningham wouldn't accept his money to buy lunch, she is punished by a teacher. Note: In this chapter, the reader is informed of a narrow-minded and idealistic approach to learning that takes a gradual approach. The fact that Scout already knows how to read and write is not appreciated, but is judged by the teacher irritating for further learning. The chapter also shows a section of Maycomb society where people, like the Cunninghams, are dirt-poor but honest and hardworking. Scout's teacher, Ms. Carolina, who hails from North Alabama, is not familiar with the Maycomb Society, and Scout's simple explanation about Walter Cunningham only serves to irritate the teacher all the more. Gradually, the intricacies of the Maycomb Society are unveiled by the author. Page 5 Jem manages to stop the fight between Scout and Walter Cunningham and spontaneously invites him to dinner. Scout makes an involuntary remark about Walter's strange eating habits at the dinner table, and is a serious rebuke to Calpurnia. Back at school, Miss Carolina is disgusted to see louse in Burris Ewell's hair and sends him home to get clean. The boy's indecent behaviour shocks the teacher and one student offers an explanation about the lifestyle of the Ewells, who break all the rules and live a life of leniency. At home, Scout wonders aloud to her father whether she too could skip school and stay home like the Ewells. Atticus explains to her that sometimes the rules are bent to maintain harmony in society, but Scout will have to go to school. Notes: Another part of Maycomb County is revealed here. The Ewells are what has been called 'white waste' who live in desperate poverty but make no attempts to get out of it. The company must accept their life and they are only avoided if possible. The Cunninghams, though as poor, are not like the Ewells, in that they possess self-esteem, honesty and perseverance. Atticus, as a lawyer, has to deal with all kinds of people, including, like Cunninghams and Ewells, and therefore is aware of its particular flaws and strengths. Calpurnia serves as a surrogate mother for children, who takes them by hand, teaches them basic reading and polite behavior. Chapter 4 On this particular day, as Scout runs back home from school, he sees something glistening on an oak tree in front of Radley's house. With courage, she retraces her steps to explore and finds some gum wrapped in tin foil and stuffed into a hole in his suitcase. I'm jem, when you find out, the scout spits it out. But the very next day, when they pass the same place, they discover a box containing two glowing pennies. Initially they decide to ask if anyone has lost any pennies, and if they were not applicants, they decide to pocket themselves. Dill comes under fire for fame and fanfare fantasies. While they play together, Scout gets into an old tire that's pushed through Jem. He starts rolling down the road and stops right in front of Radley's house. In her fear, Scout runs back, leaving the tires behind. Jem, with a lot of ado at bravery, eventually loads it up. Then they plan a pantomimus game, with Jem pretending to be Boo, constantly howls and screams away. They even acted at the scene, where Boo allegedly threw a knife into his father's pants. Unfortunately for them, Atticus catches them on it and the game is stopped. Scout remembers that on the day she rolled into Radley Court, she heard a low sound of laughter from inside the house. Notes: The apparent vanity of the new way of teaching makes Scout slow in his school work. It is also clear that her fear of radley's home has not been alleviated with time. The discovery of chewing gum, and later pennies, gives an insight into the character of Boo Radley, who fears all children but who loves them nonetheless, and therefore shows his interest in them through these covert attempts. Even his laughter that Scout hears as he rolls in his front yard reveals his zeal in children's actions and fervor in the life of his life in the midst of people, as he did before he was when this severe prison sentence. The game kids indulge in is typical of kids who want to enact things they hear. And although Boo Radley dreads the wit of them, his life has meaning too, leading them to enact (what they think it is) Boo's life.



Tom uses characteristic colloquially English, saying 'suh' for 'sir' and 'chillun' for 'kids'. Still, he is polite enough to repeat the foul words used by Bob Ewell, in the courtroom. This suggests that although he had very little formal education, his good clouds and etiquette are innate. Various derogatory terms for black people were also used, such as 'nigger', 'darky', 'Blacks', 'colored folk' and so on; this reflects the attitude of whites towards blacks. So the language was very adeptly and adroitly used by Harper Lee to make her novel read natural. The morality in Harper Lee's novel, through his novel, attempted to present a certain moral truth to the reader: the basic morality of Maycomb County was well portrayed. The primary moral truth that is evident in the book is majesty devoted to life and the need to protect it. This applies not only to the trial scene, where the life of a black man is at stake, but also to various other cases. Atticus values life fundamentally, even if it's birdy. He refuses to touch the gun unless absolutely necessary. His son, too, is careful enough to preserve all earthworms while building his snowman, and even reprimands Scout as he tries to tease. Dill also shows the same love for living creatures, and he says striking a match under a turtle can hurt you. Miss Maudie loves her plants and lends a lot of love and care to them. Another characteristic human value is the need for love and affection. Arthur Radley has lived a lifetime free of friendship. Dill, hungry for love, weaved fantastic stories that reveal the tragic nature of his life. Mayella also reveals, through her words, the desire for love and affection she only received from Tom Robinson. Tolerance and patience are the other morals taught in this novel. Atticus teaches her children to tolerate the vitriolic language of Ms. Dubose because she had a need for them. She teaches them to be patient with Aunt Alexandra, who has never discussed children before. Most importantly, it teaches them to be tolerant of the beliefs and values of others, as he says: You can never really understand a person until you realize things from his point of view – until you climb into his skin and walk in it. These values and morality have one unifying message - one needs the society in which he lives. All people are equal and it is pointless to make a difference. Just by living together in a deliberate tolerance and love can one make the best of life. Although the tone throughout is somber and interspersed with serious thoughts, but Harper Lee has injected humor into the novel. made a subtle use of humor so that the reader can understand serious messages with a pleasant taste of humor. Scout's childish viewing of the entire script touches the reader's heart and brings a smile to his face, while going through the full range of experiences that childhood is all about. So she very effectively mixes entertainment with serious morality. The lesson of equality is also passed on very effectively. It is well brought out that a person has unnecessarily distinguished between the skin color of people, and thus formed barriers to prejudice. Harper has taken pains to convey the message that one must learn to be tolerant of others. Only then can a better understanding and stronger bond of humanity be formed. Page 21 Harper Lee used symbolism quite extensively throughout the novel and much of it refers to the problems of racism in the South during the early twentieth century. Symbolism can be traced back to almost every important episode or event that formulates the plot. Right from the start Scout's character and her view of the behavior of people in Maycomb County symbolizes the child's innate curiosity to life. It also displays immaculate intelligence that helps her see beyond what is obvious. Scout's understanding of Walter Cunningham's poverty and his self-pride is a prime example of that. Even Scout and Jem's relationship with Calpurnia symbolizes the rare understanding of racism prevalent in these times. Ms. Maudie is a classic example of an enlightened woman living in an age of suppressed womanhood. Miss Maudie hates staying at home and is always seen pottering around her garden, working on her flower set. He understands that Atticus needs to combat racial prejudice and believes in it absolutely. When her house burned down, instead of moping about it, she was back on her feet the next day, restoring her house and her garden. It is therefore a symbol of strength and integrity. Ms. Dubose symbolizes the grit and determination of a woman who, while aware of the fact that she will die soon, wants to do so with all her wits about her. Her addiction to morphine is a negative factor and she is trying to overcome it significantly. Finally, the deepest symbolism conveyed is through the concept of mockingbird. Mockingbird is a symbol of everything that is harmless. They just make music for others to enjoy and to kill such a creature is a sin. Both Boo Radley and Tom Robinson are harmless individuals who never intend to hurt the soul. Yet Tom's life is lost, and it's like shooting a mockingbird. As Scout wisely says: hurting Boo Radley too would be like killing a mockingbird. So mockingbird was used to symbolize the good and harmless things in this world that should not be abused. As Mary Clare points out, Mockingbird is a symbol for the two characters in the novel: Tom Robinson and Boo Radley. In the novel, the people of Maycomb only know Boo Radley and Tom Robinson by what others are saying about them. According to the criticism both of these characters do not really have their own 'song' in a sense and therefore are characterized by the opinions of other people. The contrasts in maycomb company Maycomb county consists of a conglomerate of different parts of people living together in studied harmony. Their differences are visible, and in it lies the basis for all the problems that appear later in the novel. Outwardly, the community is divided into two parts: the white community and the black community. Blacks are simple, honest, hardworking folk, squint livelihoods by simply working in the fields. They are god afraid and attend church regularly. Being uneducated, repeating the anthems sung in the church, rote. Although the poor have a sense of self-esteem and pride and would never take anything out of the other without paying back in the enta. When Atticus takes up Tom Robinson's case, even if he loses the case, his kitchen flows through the food; the way blacks show gratitude. Although Jem and Scout are white, they are treated with respect and respect when they visit their black church. The white community is divided into two parts. One is the majority of county citizens who are simple but well-preserved. They work hard, keep their houses clean and regularly attend church. At the same time, they are prone to indulge in idle gossip and slander and have a nose to get into the affairs of others. Stephanie Crawford, with all her well-beled insolence, can't help making snide comments on Atticus and his children. Among many of these white citizens, there is an air of repressed hypocrisy. Another small segment of the white community consists of what is called white waste. Ewells are part of this segment. These people, even though white people are worse off than blacks. They are poor not because of circumstances, but because of the peddy and lack of ambition. Children are dirty, have no ways, and even refuse to attend school. They are bad and hard and have no qualms about using fists. Even the law needs to be changed a little in order to maintain order in society, for example. This community is worse off than the poor, but inherently good blacks, but they consider themselves better than them because of the color of their skin. There is another smaller segment, consisting of cunninghams. The Cunninghams are known never to take anything they can't repay, they succeed with what they have, which isn't much. When Scout's teacher offers Walter Cunningham a quarter to buy lunch for himself, he refuses, and Scout has to explain her ways to the Cunninghams. When Mr. Cunningham Pay Atticus money for his legal aid sends bags of hickory nuts, cranks and Holly to him. Rating all of these sections, you may notice a striking similarity between blacks and Cunninghams. Although different in race and color, their attitude to life, and importance to honesty and self-esteem, depicts them as good people who deserve better than what is accomplished on them by society. Ewells, on the other hand, are the worst kind of people who show no fear of better themselves, and in fact show inconscience towards others. All these different parts of people have been plotted to make the problem of racial prejudice to the fullest. Page 22 1.) Show the growth and maturity of Jem from the beginning of the novel to its end. 2.) Describe the details of the Tom Robinson trial. 3.) Clarify on Harper Lee's presentation of the black community in 'To Kill a Mockingbird'. 4.) Give a sketch of the character of Atticus. 5.) Is Atticus the ideal father? Develop. 6.) Do you sympathize with Mayella Ewells? Explain. 7.) How did Harper Lee present social snobs in her novel 'To Kill a Mockingbird'? 8.) Elaborate on the meaning of the title to the plot of the novel. 9.) Discuss the concept of a gentleman, which is mentioned in Chapter 11, where Atticus shoots a mad dog. How does this definition of gentlemanly behaviour contrast with the philosophy of self-expression? With the macho concept of male behavior? 10.) Who is responsible for Tom Robinson's death? What answers do the different characters in the novel give to this question? What answer do you think best represents the opinion of the author? What do you think? 11.) What does the author's physical description of the city of Maycomb say about the people who live there? 12.) Notice, in particular the description of the city in Chapter 1. Isn't the insistence that Maycomb is a lazy city where nothing ever happens to make you feel that something very sinister is going to happen for a long time? How is that possible? 13.) Jem Finch is one of the most important and complex characters in the novel. How will his relationship with Scout change during the story? Who do you think resembles Atticus most-Jem or Scout? 14.) Both Miss Maudie and Aunt Alexandra represent the types of southern ladies. How do these two characters differ? How similar are they? What is Scout learning from each of them? 15.) Describe the differences between Finches, Cunninghams, and Ewells. What do you think of the novel's suggestion that individual members of the same family more often than not run a faithful type? When considering this question, pay attention to what the novel says about why this is the case, noting in particular what Atticus has to say about heredity versus the environment. 16.) How important is the novel that the narrator, Scout Finch, is a child at the time story take place? 17.) Harper Lee said the South is a haven of real eccentrics. What do you learn from the various eccentric characters in the novel, such as Boo Radley and Dolphus Raymond? Nau you in mind some reasons why a company that is very aware of class and family traditions may also have more than its share of eccentrics? 18.) Do you think the character of Scout is a compelling portrait of children's behavior? Why or why not? 19.) The voice you hear telling the story of the novel is actually that of adult Jean Louise Finch telling of events that happened when she was a child. What points of the novel will you find out about? How do this adult narrator's reflections contribute to your understanding of the people of Maycomb? How did adult Jean Louise create tension by hinting at a certain development yet to come in the story? 20.) Some readers have argued that the black characters in the novel are two-dimensional, so the story presents a superficial view of the problem of racial prejudice. Do you feel that this is a valid criticism? When thinking about this issue you might want to read a novel by Richard Wright, or some other black author presenting a glimpse of life in segregation. How do these two views compare? 21.) Why did Mr. Underwood come to Atticus's aid in defending Tom Robinson from the crowd? Contrast Mr Underwood's behaviour with Heck Tate's decision to file a false police report into Bob Ewell's death. How do the two men's ideas about justice differ? 22.) What does the story say about the meaning of tradition? In framing your discussion, note that there are times when the narrator endorses traditions, for example, in defending old-fashioned ideas about education, and by mimicking Miss Caroline's modern ideas on how to teach reading. On the other hand, Atticus, the hero of the story, criticizes Aunt Alexandra for being too concerned with family traditions. And he himself broke those traditions when he became a lawyer instead of a farmer. 23.) Some readers think that Jem's broken hand symbolizes the wound that the system of segregation inflicted on white southerners. What do you think of this idea? What evidence can you find in the story that the author might have intended to make a broken hand a symbol? 24.) When To Kill a Mockingbird was first published in 1960 a number of reviewers compared the character scout to Frankie, the tomboy in Carson McCullers' play The Wedding Member. You may want to read the wedding member for yourself and discuss how the two characters are similar. Or, if you think they are very different, why do you think the comparison is wrong. 25.) Discuss how Scout's attitude to superstition changes during the novel. Do not forget to talk about the last chapter in the story, Atticus reads scout from the novel The Gray Ghost. Why hasn't scout found such stories scary? 26.) Why do you think the scene in which Jem and Scout build a snowman was included in the novel? Explain. 27.) Contrast of Ms. Maudie's character and newspaper editor Mr. Underwood. How can two individuals whose values are as different as good characters? 28.) What is the importance of scout criticism of progressive education? If innocent children are sometimes smarter than the adults around them, as the story seems to be telling, why doesn't the narrator trust a teaching system that depends on children's ability to learn through instinct and self initiative? Initiatives?

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