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To kill a mockingbird short questions

Language is a powerful tool in this novel. The language of the children, Atticus' eloquence, and the language of the inhabitants reflect their attitudes and, often, their prejudices. What lessons does Atticus try to teach the Scout about the use of racial slurs? Many of the characters in the novel have stereotypes about how individuals will behave as a result of their age, gender, race, social status, etc. Which characters are the victims of stereotypes? Do any of them break their expected behavior by showing individuality and exposing the falsehood of labeling people? By not arresting Boo Radley in the end, Sheriff Tate is breaking the law, as is Atticus, who knows the truth of Ewell's murder. Do you agree with some critics that Atticus' actions are wrong and illegal? Point of View The novel begins as the voice of a mature adult recalling childhood events and sometimes switches to the point of view of a 6-year-old. Did you notice the shifts taking place? If so, did you find them distracting? What advantages did the author have as a result of being able to move from one perspective to another? Configuration Compare the city of Maycomb with the place where you grew up, observing similarities and differences. The story takes place in a small town in southern Alabama during the Depression of the 1930s. What aspects of history seem to be particular to that place and time? What aspects of history are universal, cutting time and place? How are the people you know today similar and different from Maycomb? Plot Did To Kill a Mockingbird have your interest? Which parts of the story have kept their interest most strongly? Because? What parts seemed less interesting? Because? Many readers see To Kill a Mockingbird as having two parts, one centered on Boo Radley and the other on Tom Robinson's trial. How were the two stories brought together at the end of the novel? Harper Lee called her novel a love story. Is it an accurate characterization of the novel? Symbolism A central symbol in the novel is the mockingbird, described by Ms. Maudie as a creature that should never be killed because it is harmless and even provides music for the pleasure of others. Both Boo Radley and Tom Robinson are basically innocent individuals who are at the mercy of society, but society is cruel to Boo and ultimately Tom is murdered. The mockingbird symbol also points to Scout, both as an innocent child and as the adult narrator, who sings a song while telling the story. Can you think of additional ways in which the following work as symbols in To Kill a Mockingbird? Mad dog (crazed community; berserk) Treehouse (a retreat of the world) Camellias (the gentle old south, living in the past) Weapon (an abuse of Atticus' power-vision; a means of power – the lynch-mafia vision) cemented in tree and singers or storytellers being frustrated) Columns on buildings (persistence of the old South; a façade) Atticus' pocket clock (love of a missing mother) Additional points for discussion Other works of literature mentioned throughout the novel Superstition Literacy, both reading and the inability to read Frequent mention of specific flowers Real and symbolic prisons And prison prisons Theories and practices of child rearing Social codes not written Role of imagination and creativity in the Children's lives The two dramas — the Radleys perform and the Halloween contest Eccentricity for the Movie Compare the film with the book. How does watching the movie compared to the reading experience? What has the film changed or left out? Why do you think these characters and moments have been altered or deleted? For example, when a lynch mob confronts Atticus before the trial, Scout's innocent interference dispels the threat of violence. Compare the scene as it occurs in chapter 15 of the novel with the film. What other films to Kill a Mockingbird remind you of? How are they the same? How do they differ? How does the film like this to the childhood images depicted in other movies or television shows you've seen? Other activities As a complement to To Kill a Mockingbird, read Lewis Nordan's novel Wolf Whistle. It was inspired by the murder of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old African-American man kidnapped, beaten and drowned by two white men for whistling to a white woman. By studying primary source materials from the American Memory Library website, students can better understand how historical events and human forces have shaped the relationships between black and white, and our country's rich and poor cultures. This site guides teachers and students on a journey through the Depression era in the 1930s. The activities familiarize students with Southern experiences through the study of romance and African-American experiences through the examination of primary sources. Write a newspaper article for Maycomb News Today about people or events in To Kill a Mockingbird, and include a headline, a headline, and know who, what, where, when, why, and how of the event. Create a collage of what you consider important images of the novel. Create a poster for a new film based on the book and include images of today's actors that you can cast in the lead roles. If Boo Radley could talk, what do you think he'd say? Write an entry in your secret journal. Watch the film version of To Kill a Mockingbird. Last updated content: October 31, 2001 The phrase is a sin to kill a little bird intentionally and senselessly refers to destroying something that does not hurt. The bird is a bird-song, not a plague, and it is not a bird hunting. Killing a little bird serves no purpose, and therefore is an unnecessary act of unnecessary When the jury convicts Tom Robinson of rape despite the absence of physical evidence and despite Atticus' compelling defense, the jury is guilty of the same unnecessary cruelty. The jury specifically, and the city of Maycomb generally, destroy a good person who has never done harm simply because of the color of his skin. Although Tom is the symbolic mockingbird at the heart of the novel, he is not the only character who fits that description. Heck Tate also specifically describes Boo Radley as a bird, in that he is a harmless person who is the victim of useless cruelty. Unlike Tom Robinson, Boo Radley is not destroyed, although he suffers a lot. Very much.