**To Kill a Mockingbird**

**Chapter Question 12-31**

**Chapter 12**

1. Why is Scout so surprised when Jem says, “It’s time you started bein’a girl and acting right…?” (p.115) What is Lee’s purpose for having Jen say this?
2. Why is Calpurnia so concerned about the children’s appearance when she takes them to First Purchase?
3. Why does Calpurnia speak differently at First Purchase than she does with the children in their home? What is Lee illustrating with this switch and Scout’s questions about it?
4. What is the significance of Calpurnia’s description of learning to read? How does this affect Scout?

**Chapter 13**

1. Why did Aunt Alexandra come to stay with Atticus, Jem, and Scout? What does her arrival tell the reader and the people of Maycomb about her relationship with Atticus?
2. What does Atticus mean when he says, “I cannot stay here with you all day, and this summer’s going ot be a hot one?”
3. Why did the children feel so isolated and upset when Atticus asked them to listen to Aunt Alexandra’s explanations of the significance of being a Finch?\
4. What does Scout mean when she says, “I know now what he was trying to do, but Atticus was only a man. It takes a woman to do that kind of work.” (p. 134)

**Chapter 14**

1. Describe how Atticus ’and Aunt Alexandra’s reaction to Scout and Jem visiting Calpurnia’s church reflect their attitudes toward African-American.
2. What can the reader infer from Scout’s question about Boo Radley running away and Dill’s response?

**Chapter 15**

1. How does Lee create suspense leading up to the confrontation at the jailhouse?
2. What is the significance of Lee’s use of light and dark in this chapter? Think about the symbolism.
3. What does
Jen’s refusal to obey Atticus indicate with respect to Jem’s character and what he has learned from Aunt Alexandra’s extended stay with them?
4. By talking to Walter Cunningham the way she did, what lesson does Scout show Atticus that she has learned?

**Chapter 16**

1. What does Atticus’ comment that Calpurnia “…knows what she means to this family” (p.157)show about his own prejudices?
2. Describe the atmosphere in town the day of the trial. What clues does Lee give the reader about the atmosphere?

**Chapter 17**

1. Describe the impression that Tate gives the reader through his recount of the event and Atticus’ cross-examination. What conclusion can the reader draw about Lee’s purpose for Tate’s testimony?
2. What can the reader infer from Atticus’ emphasis on the location of the Mayella’s injuries an Bob Ewell’s dominant hand?
3. Compare Jem and Scout’s attitudes at the end of this chapter regarding the progress of the trial. What do their attitudes tell the reader about their understanding of race relations in Maycomb?

**Chapter 18**

1. How does Lee create suspense and sympathy during Mayella’s testimony?
2. Why does Atticus ask Tom to stand?
3. How does Atticus respond to having to cross-examine Mayella?

**Chapter 19**

1. Why does Lee begin this chapter with a description of Tom trying not take the oath in the trial?
2. What is inferred by MR. Gilmer calling Tom a boy? Why is Dill the one who gets upset by these references?
3. Why does Lee have Link Deas interrupt the trial?

**Chapter 20**

1. Why does Lee include Raymond’s conversation with Scout and Dill in the middle of the trial?
2. Why does Atticus identify the court as the only place that all men are equal?

**Chapter 21**

1. Why does Lee mention the length the jury deliberates?
2. Why do the African American’s observing the trial stand up as Atticus walks by?

**Chapter 22**

1. Why does Atticus say the same thing to the children as Mr. Raymond said?
2. How does Lee remind us of the character of Miss Stephanie, Miss Rachel, and Miss Maudie through their comments after the trial?
3. How does Miss Maudie’s comment, ”There are some men in this world who were born to do our unpleasant jobs…?” (p. 215) characterize Atticus as a nonconformist?

**Chapter 23**

1. How is Atticus’ response to the Ewell’s threat consistent with his character?
2. What evidence do we have that Scout and Jem have matured throughout the novel?

**Chapter 24**

1. What is surprising and incorrect about Mrs. Merriweather comments?
2. How does Aunt Alexandra’s character show growth after Tom’s death?
3. How do Aunt Alexandra, Miss Maudie and Scout follow Atticus’ example by returning to the missionary circle?

**Chapter 25**

1. How does Lee connect Tom Robinson’s to the innocent mockingbird?
2. What is Maycomb’s response to Tom’s death?
3. How might Bob Ewell’s comment, after Tom’s death, be foreshadowing?

**Chapter 26**

1. What is the purpose of reintroducing Boo Radley in this chapter?
2. How are the children handling everything that has happened sinc e they first tried to entice Boo out of home, just one year ago?

**Chapter 27**

1. What details in this chapter help build suspense?
2. Is there a difference between open minded and naïve? Which is Atticus reflecting in this chapter?
3. What is the mood of the novel at the end of this chapter? What evidence do you have to support that?

**Chapter 28**

1. How does Lee set the stage in this chapter?
2. How is the reader’s perspective of the attack limited by the fact that Scout is the narrator?
3. What are some clues about Ewell’s death? What conclusions can you draw?

**Chapter 29**

1. Throughout the novel, Atticus demonstrates his belief that people are inherently good. How does he struggle with this belief after the attack?
2. Who feels responsible for what happened, and why?

**Chapter 30**

1. How does Boo Radley finally transform from monster to human, in Scout’s eyes?
2. Why does Scout reference e the mockingbird when Atticus asks if she understands Tate’s decision?

**Chapter 31**

1. What does Scout do for Arthur and why?
2. Why does Lee end the book the way she does?
3. What Themes does Lee want the reader to take away?