

STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS - *To Kill A Mockingbird*



CHAPTERS 1-3

1. What did Dill dare Jem to do?
2. What was Scout's first "crime" at school?
3. What was Calpurnia's fault?
4. Why did Scout rub Walter Cunningham's nose in the dirt?
5. Scout said, " He ain't company, Cal, he's just a Cunningham." What did she mean by that and what was Cal's answer?
6. What two mistakes did Miss Caroline make on the first day of school?
7. Why didn't the Ewells have to go to school?

CHAPTERS 4-7

1. What did Scout and Jem find in the Radleys' tree?
2. How did Jem get even with Scout for contradicting him about "Hot Steams?"
3. What was the Boo Radley game?
4. What does Miss Maudie think of the Radleys?
5. Why do Dill and Jem want to give Boo Radley a note? What does Atticus say when he finds out about their plan?
6. How did Jem lose his pants? What did he find when he went back for them?

7. What else did Jem and Scout find in the Radleys' tree?

8. Why would there be no more surprises in the tree?

CHAPTERS 8-9

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

2. Identify Cecil Jacobs.

3. What "disaster" happened at Christmas between Scout and Francis?

4. What did Scout's Uncle Jack learn from Scout and Atticus?

CHAPTERS 10-11

1. What brave thing does Atticus do in Chapter 10? Why are Scout and Jem shocked?

2. What did Jem do when Mrs. Dubose said Atticus "lawed for niggers?"

3. What was Jem's punishment?

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

CHAPTERS 12-14

1. How does Jem change?

2. Who was Zeebo?

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.

6. Atticus and Alexandra disagree about how to deal with the children. How does Atticus handle the situation?

7. Describe Jem and Scout's relationship through these chapters as Jem matures.

8. Why did Dill run away from home back to Maycomb?

CHAPTERS 15-17

1. What did Mr. Heck Tate's mob want?

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

3. Why did Mr. Cunningham's mob leave?

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

CHAPTERS 18-21

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

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

3. What was Tom's handicap? Why was it important to his case?

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

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

6. What was the jury's verdict?

CHAPTERS 22-25

1. Why did Jem cry?

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

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

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

5. What is Atticus' reaction to Ewell's threats?
6. Alexandra doesn't want Scout playing with Walter Cunningham. Why not?
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. Mrs. Merriweather of the missionary circle complains about her cooks and field hands. What does that tell us about her?
9. What happened to Tom Robinson?
10. What more do we learn about Alexandra after Atticus and Calpurnia leave?
11. What did Mr. Underwood's editorial say?

CHAPTERS 26-31

1. Why, according to Atticus, does Bob Ewell bear a grudge? Which people does Ewell see as his enemies and why?
2. What explanation does Atticus give for Bob Ewell's attack? What explanation does Heck Tate give? Whose explanation do you think is more likely to be true?
3. Who does Atticus think caused Bob Ewell's death?
4. Why does Heck Tate insist that Bob Ewell's death was self-inflicted?
5. Is Heck Tate right to spare Boo Radley the publicity of an inquest? Why do you think as you do?
6. How do the events of the final chapters explain the first sentence in this novel?
7. How does Scout make sense of an earlier remark of Atticus's as she stands on the Radley porch?