

**ENGLISH IV – COLLEGE PREP/HONORS**  
**SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2021**

Dear English IV College Prep/Honors Students,

Welcome to a brand new year. At ACC, we are looking forward to a wonderful and challenging year for all of you. As part of your preparation for next year, you are assigned to read one novel listed below. This thought-provoking novel and the related assignment will provide you with the necessary practice to sharpen and maintain your critical reading skills.

***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee – ISBN-13 978-0060935467**

See the plot summary below (from Amazon):

**Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning masterwork of honor and injustice in the deep South—and the heroism of one man in the face of blind and violent hatred**

One of the most cherished stories of all time, *To Kill a Mockingbird* has been translated into more than forty languages, sold more than forty million copies worldwide, served as the basis for an enormously popular motion picture, and was voted one of the best novels of the twentieth century by librarians across the country. A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.

Please purchase a hard or paperback copy of the novel. Also, read and carefully follow the instructions for the assignments which are designed to help prepare you for the first quarter of the school year. All assignments will be collected on the first day of school, without exception.

Please purchase a paperback copy of the novel. Also, please read and carefully follow the instructions for the assignment which are designed to help prepare you for the first quarter of the school year. The assignment will be collected on the first day of school, without exception. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Isabella Loffa at [iloffa@colemancarroll.org](mailto:iloffa@colemancarroll.org) - Dr. Carmen De Ara (Level 1) at [cdeara@colemancarroll.org](mailto:cdeara@colemancarroll.org) or Ms. Laura Behrens at [lbehrens@colemancarroll.org](mailto:lbehrens@colemancarroll.org)

Have a fun, relaxing summer, enjoy your reading selection, and we'll see you in August!

Many blessings,

Mrs. Loffa, Dr. De Ara, Ms. Behrens  
Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School  
English Department

## SUMMER ASSIGNMENT ON *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

**PLEASE MAKE SURE TO READ THE FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY AS NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THEM WILL BE REFLECTED IN YOUR GRADE**

Please purchase a black and white **composition notebook** (\$1.00 at Office Depot) in which to answer the discussion questions on the novel. You must **hand write your answers** (NO TYPED WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED). You may answer in cursive or print, but please make sure that your writing is legible. Your notebook must be turned in on the first full day of class. **This assignment will count as three (3) homework assignments.**



Please answer each question in a complete sentence with details to support your answer. Use the questions to frame your answers. Also, eliminate the use of personal pronouns as much as possible (I, me, he, him, her, she, it, you, them, they). Use the character's name instead to identify who you are talking about. Remember that capitalization and punctuation rules apply and will be considered when grading your notebook.

The key component in reading comprehension is being able to answer what we call the 5 W's and an H: Who, what, when, where, why and how. The discussion questions will address these reading comprehension building blocks. As you finish reading each chapter of the novel, you should complete the discussion questions for that chapter. Do not read the book and then go back and try to answer the questions. Answer them while the chapter is fresh in your mind!

## **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD BY HARPER LEE**

### **Part I: Discussion questions**

#### **Chapter 1:**

1. The narrator, Scout, discusses her family. List Scout's real name, the names of the people who live in her home and each character's relation to her.
2. Why do you think Harper Lee uses Scout, a child narrator, rather than an adult? Consider the effect a child's voice has upon the mood of the novel. How would the novel be different if it was narrated by one of the adult characters? Use examples from the novel to support your ideas.
3. "There was no hurry, for there was nowhere to go, nothing to buy and no money to buy it with, nothing to see outside the boundaries of Maycomb County. But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people: Maycomb County had recently been told that it had nothing to fear but fear itself." Rephrase this description in your own words and describe the effect it has upon the setting and mood of the novel.
4. Describe the legend of Boo Radley, as believed by the children.
5. The story is told as a flashback. It starts with Jem recovering from a broken arm and then goes back in time to tell the story. Why do you think Harper Lee chose to tell the story as a flashback? Consider how a flashback impacts the reader's experience.

#### **Chapter 2:**

6. List two reasons Miss Caroline is upset with Scout.
7. Based on Harper Lee's characterization of Miss Caroline, what inferences can you draw about the Maycomb educational system?

#### **Chapter 3:**

8. Why does Scout get in trouble with Calpurnia when Walter is over for dinner?
9. Describe Burris Ewell and his family.
10. Atticus says, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." Restate this passage in your own words and explain what you think Atticus is trying to explain to Scout.

#### **Chapter 4:**

11. Describe the items Scout and Jem find in the knothole of the tree. From where do you think they came?
12. Describe the game the kids start playing in this chapter.

#### **Chapter 5:**

13. Describe the neighbor to whom Scout grows close and what Scout learns about Boo.

14. What do Dill and Jem try to do to lure Boo out of the house?

**Chapter 6:**

15. Does Mr. Nathan Radley know who was in his collard patch? Explain your answer.

**Chapter 7:**

16. Describe what happens to Jem's pants in Chapters 6 and 7.

17. What happens with the knothole in Chapter 7: Who do you think is responsible?

**Chapter 8:**

18. Whose home burns down and what is placed upon Scout's shoulders?

19. Describe Miss Maudie's response to losing her home. What does this tell you about her character?

**Chapter 9:**

20. Describe the fight Scout has with Cecil Jacobs and how it is resolved.

21. Describe the legal case Atticus takes and why he takes it.

22. Why does Scout get a spanking in this chapter?

**Chapter 10:**

23. Miss Maudie says, "Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy...That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird." This echoes the title of the novel. What do you think could be the deeper meaning of the phrase "To Kill a Mockingbird?" Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

24. Why does Jem tell Scout to keep it a secret that Atticus is the best shot in the county?

**Chapter 11:**

25. Describe one mean thing that Mrs. Dubose said to either Jem or Scout.

26. What does Atticus mean when he says Mrs. Dubose died free "as the mountain air"?

27. Atticus says, "I wanted you to see what real courage is...It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what." How is Atticus demonstrating real courage in the novel?

28. List all the things Boo Radley has done for the children in Chapters 1-11.

**Chapter 12:**

29. Why doesn't Dill come to Maycomb over the summer?

30. Describe Calpurnia's church and the experience the children have as visitors.

**Chapter 13:**

31. Is Scout happy to have Aunt Alexandria come and stay with the Finch family? Explain why or why not.
32. What positive qualities can you see in Aunt Alexandria? Use examples from the text to support your response.

**Chapter 14:**

33. List two changes Aunt Alexandria recommends for the Finch family.
34. What do Jem and Scout find under Scout's bed?

**Chapter 15:**

35. In 2-3 sentences, describe what happens at the courthouse in this chapter. Who were the men gathered there? What was the purpose of the men? What impact does Scout have on the situation?
36. What qualities does Jem show through his behavior in this chapter?

**Chapter 16:**

37. Atticus says, "So it took an eight-year-old child to bring 'em to their senses...That proves something – that a gang of wild animals can be stopped, simply because they're still human." Explain what he means by this statement and how it furthers the characterization of Atticus and Jem.
38. Why does Miss Maudie refuse to attend the trial of Tom Robinson?

**Chapter 17:**

39. Describe Mr. Ewell's behavior in court. How would you describe his character?
40. Why is it significant that Mr. Ewell is left-handed?

**Chapter 18:**

41. Why is Mayella Ewell upset when Atticus calls her "Miss Mayella"?
42. What is revealed when Tom Robinson is called upon to stand up in the courtroom and what impact does this have on Mayella's testimony?

**Chapter 19:**

43. In 2-3 sentences, recount the testimony of Tom Robinson.
44. Dill says, "I don't care one speck. It ain't right...Hasn't anybody got any business talkin' like that – it just makes me sick." Why is Dill so upset? Give examples from the novel to support your response.

**Chapter 20:**

45. List two ways Mr. Dolphus Raymond goes against the unspoken rules of society.
46. After reading the closing arguments Atticus makes, list his two strongest points in your opinion.

**Chapter 21:**

47. Explain the significance of Reverend Syke's words, "Miss Jean Louise, stand up. Your father's passin'."
48. Harper Lee uses complex characterization to show the various attitudes toward race reflected in the community during the time period in which the book is set. Write a paragraph discussing the variety of racial attitudes reflected in the novel. Use at least three characters as examples. Use evidence from the text up to Chapter 21.

**Chapter 22:**

49. Jem is distraught by the verdict and Miss Maudie attempts to console him by pointing out that people did help Tom Robinson. In your own words, describe Miss Maudie's explanation.
50. How has Jem's character changed over the course of the first 22 chapters of the novel?

**Chapter 23:**

51. How does Atticus explain the logic behind Bob Ewell's threats?
52. Explain why Jem declares, "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."
53. Atticus says, "The one place where a man ought to get a square deal is in a courtroom, be he any color of the rainbow, but people have a way of carrying their resentments right into a jury box." What do you think he means by this statement?

**Chapter 24:**

54. What news does Atticus bring to Aunt Alexandra, Calpurnia, Miss Maudie and Scout?
55. Explain why the Missionary Society's meeting for the betterment of conditions for "those poor Mrunas" is ironic.

**Chapter 25:**

56. What causes Scout to say that Jem was acting more like a girl every day? What definition of girl does this imply?
57. What does Scout realize for the first time when she reads Underwood's claim that Tom's death was "senseless killing"? What did she think before reading the editorial?

**Chapter 26:**

58. How has Scout's view of Arthur "Boo" Radley changed since the start of the book?
59. What does Scout overhear that confuses her about Miss Gates' view of Hitler? Explain her confusion.

**Chapter 27:**

60. What three out of the ordinary events does Scout describe at the start of Chapter 27?
61. What is Scout's Halloween costume? What are its chief drawbacks?

### **Chapter 28:**

62. Who are the “four people under the tree” in this chapter?
63. Who is the children’s attacker? What happens to him?

### **Chapter 29:**

64. What unexpected advantage does the ham supply?
65. What does Boo Radley really look like?

### **Chapter 30:**

66. Who kills Bob Ewell and why does Mr. Tate want everyone to believe he fell on his knife?
67. Scout says, “Well, it’d be sort of like shootin’ a mockingbird, wouldn’t it?” Explain what she means including the context of the passage.

### **Chapter 31:**

68. List three things Scout does to make Boo feel comfortable.
69. How has Scout changed through the course of the novel?
70. Scout says, “we have given him nothing.” Do you think she is right or wrong – why or why not?
71. Scout and Atticus have the following conversation: “‘An’ they chased him ‘n’ never could catch him ‘cause they didn’t know what he looked like, an’ Atticus, when they finally saw him, why he hadn’t done any of those things...Atticus, he was real nice...’ His hands were under my chin, pulling up the cover, tucking it around me. ‘Most people are, Scout, when you finally see them.’” What is Scout telling Atticus? Does Atticus understand?
72. Which character do you think changes the most throughout the course of the novel? Use several examples from the novel to support your ideas.

### **Part II: Terminology**

Please define the following important literary terms. Add any information that might help you better understand the definitions. These terms will be used throughout the year, and learning them well now will assist you in better understanding the novels we will read together. You can expect a quiz on these terms your first week back to school.

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|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Theme                    | 10. Analysis         |
| 2. Archetype                | 11. Dramatic Irony   |
| 3. Breaking the Fourth Wall | 12. Denouement       |
| 4. Foil                     | 13. Allusion         |
| 5. Deus Ex Machina          | 14. Mood             |
| 6. Anagnorisis              | 15. Tone             |
| 7. Exposition               | 16. Characterization |
| 8. Poetic Justice           | 17. Symbolism        |
| 9. Summary                  | 18. Colloquialism    |

