

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____ Score: _____

Close Reading: *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Chapter I

Part I: pages 3-the middle of 5

List five details that indicate history (personal, local, or national) is important in Maycomb.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

What do you think this emphasis on history shows about the area?

What do we know about Atticus Finch from his family, his actions, and his work as a lawyer? List specific details from the text.

Part II: page 5-top of 6

List 5 details about Maycomb that the narrator (Scout) mentions. Pay attention to the diction she uses to describe the town.

1.

4.

2.

5.

3.

What impression do you get of Maycomb having read the description?

History Connection: The reference to “nothing to fear but fear itself” is an **allusion** to FDR’s inaugural speech given on March 4, 1933. The beginning of his address is copied below.

I am certain that my fellow Americans expect that on my induction into the Presidency I will address them with a candor and a decision which the present situation of our people impel. This is preeminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today. This great Nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that **the only thing we have to fear is fear itself**—nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance... I am convinced that you will again give that support to leadership in these critical days.

In such a spirit on my part and on yours we face our common difficulties. They concern, thank God, only material things. Values have shrunk to fantastic levels; taxes have risen; our ability to pay has fallen; government of all kinds is faced by serious curtailment of income; the means of exchange are frozen in the currents of trade; the withered leaves of industrial enterprise lie on every side; farmers find no markets for their produce; the savings of many years in thousands of families are gone.

More important, a host of unemployed citizens face the grim problem of existence, and an equally great number toil with little return. Only a foolish optimist can deny the dark realities of the moment. [...]

Happiness lies not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort. The joy and moral stimulation of work no longer must be forgotten in the mad chase of evanescent profits. These dark days will be worth all they cost us if they teach us that our true destiny is not to be ministered unto but to minister to ourselves and to our fellow men.

What issues was America dealing with at the time, according to Roosevelt?

What type of attitude did Roosevelt think people should have?

What do you think Roosevelt meant by his comment about fear?