

## Unit – To Kill a Mockingbird

Ms. Kamrass

### Essential Questions:

Why is racism dangerous?

What is courage? How do you know if people possess it?

What affect does the setting have on a story?

What influences a person's character?

### The novel:

One of the most well-known and best-loved American novels, decades of American students have read To Kill a Mockingbird. Scout, the protagonist, narrates her experiences growing up in the midst of racial and socio-economic turmoil in Maycomb, Alabama during the Great Depression.

### Literary terms:

**colloquialism** – a local or regional dialect expression

**type of narration** – first person via the protagonist (Jean Louise “Scout” Finch), from her adult perspective reflecting on significant events in her childhood.

**static and dynamic characters** – **Static** characters remain the same throughout a literary work; **dynamic** characters change.

**flat and round characters** – **Flat** characters are marked by a lack of complexity – they are caricatures (defined by a single idea or quality). **Round** characters have a high level of complexity and depth associated with real people and their ambiguities.

*review*: plot structure (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution), conflict, characterization, foreshadowing, and theme

**Evaluation**: homework reading and responses, reading quizzes, test, and research assignment

**Research**: Letter for book about modern racial issues

### Pre-Reading Notes:

setting of the novel

vs. American South at publication date

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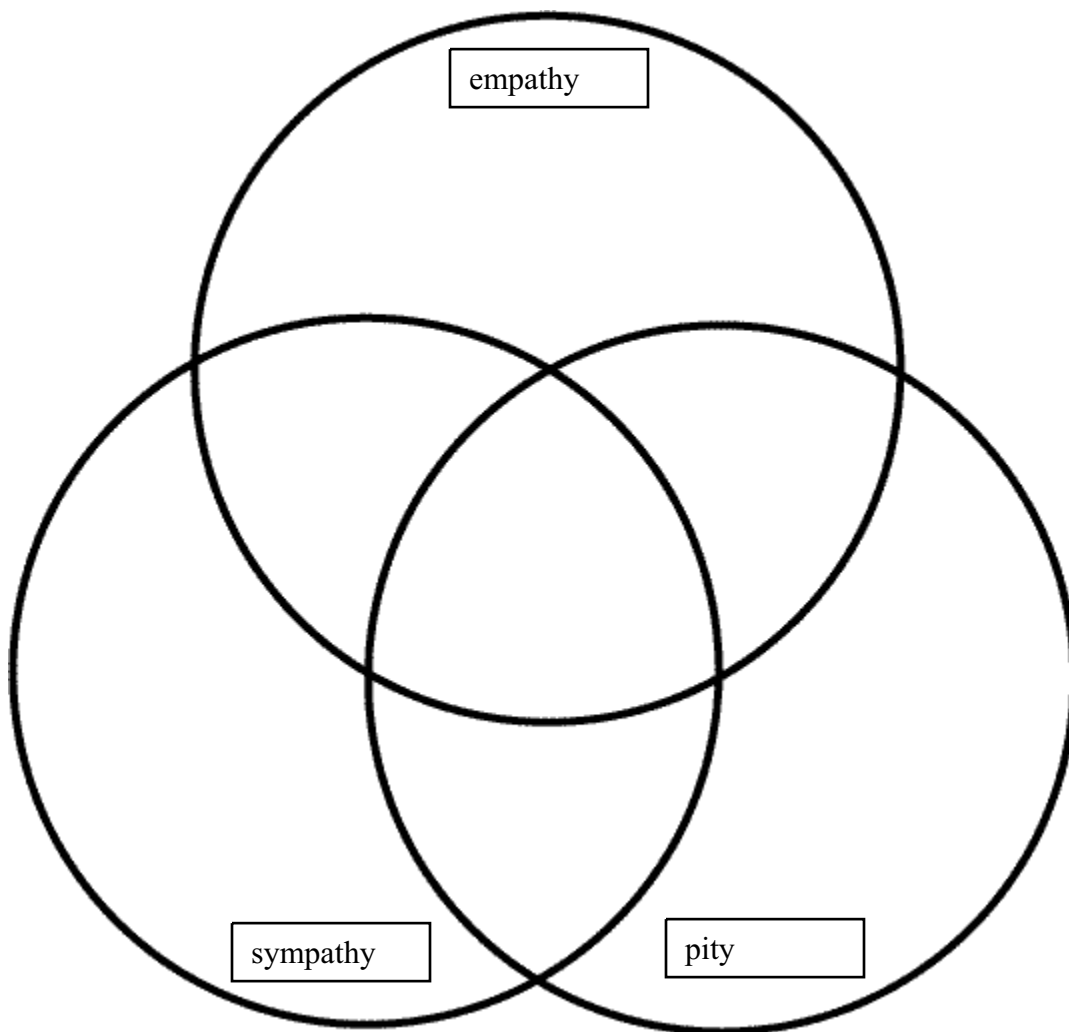
**Part I. Directions:** Define the following words individually, using a dictionary. Write a full definition (more than just the first one given). After, fill in the Venn diagram to explore the similarities and differences.

**Set 1**

pity -

sympathy -

empathy -

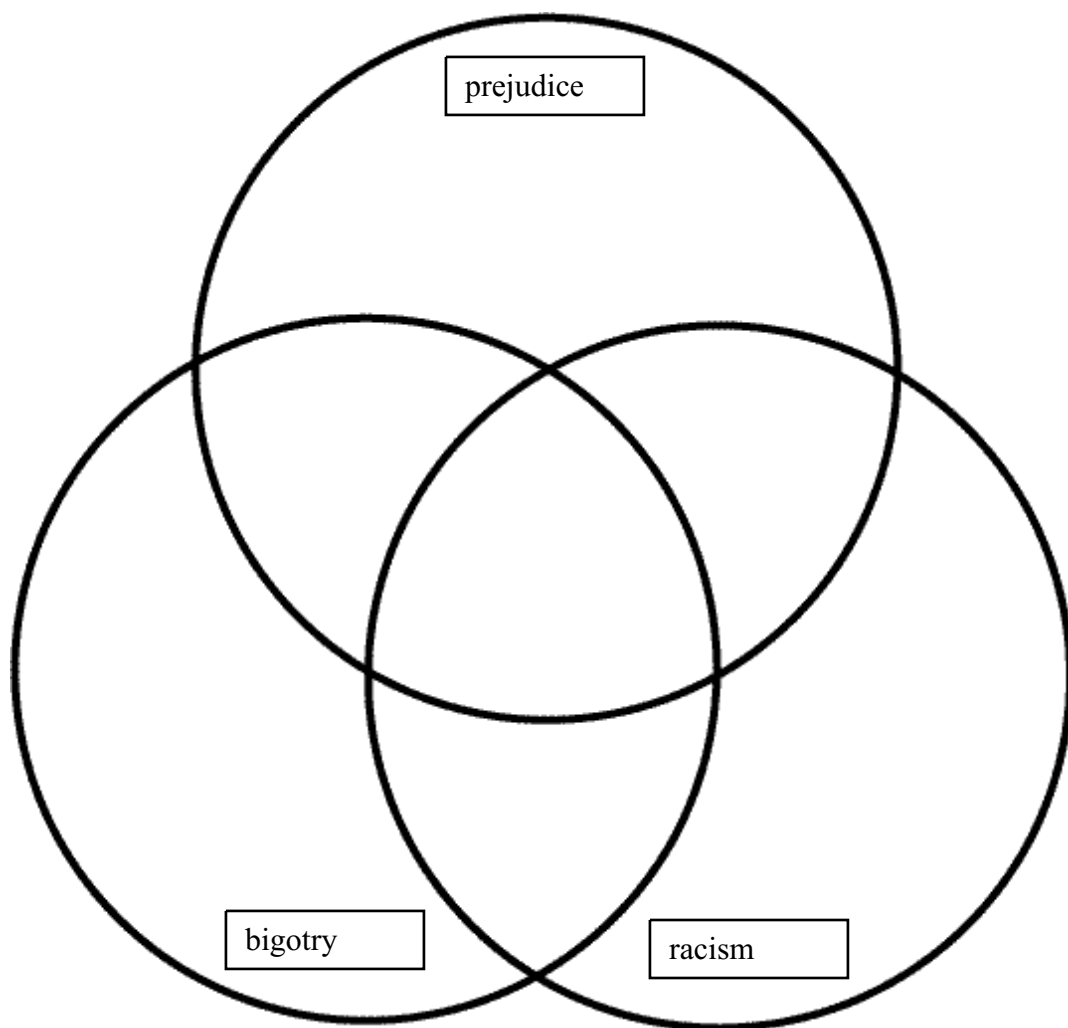


**Set 2**

prejudice -

bigotry -

racism -



## Chapter 1

1. Chapter 1 introduces us to the town of Maycomb, its appearance, its inhabitants, and the particular attitudes of many of its people. Find a phrase or sentence that illustrates the particulars of that setting; quote at least a portion of the sentence or paragraph and give the page number, MLA style.

A. Notes for novel's setting (Maycomb, Alabama):

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B. Atticus Finch (*What did you learn about him? What do you know because of this information?*)

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C. Boo Radley (*What did you learn about him? Does the information reliable? Why or why not?*)

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## Chapter 2

2. The Great Depression (*What did you learn about its specific effects?*)

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### Chapter 3

3. Both Calpurnia and Atticus scold Scout for her criticism of Walter Cunningham. What are their reasons?

4. These three characters are all from poor families, and yet act quite differently: Burris Ewell, Walter Cunningham, Chuck Little. Describe their differences in the chart below:

	appearance	attitude	one significant quote
Burris			
Walter			
Chuck			

5. Atticus tells Scout, “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb in his skin and walk around in it” (30). What is Atticus trying to teach his daughter?

### Notes for Chapter 10; To Kill a Mockingbird

1. We have encountered the first reference to the title: Atticus cautions Jem not to kill a mockingbird. Why? Write the **quote** (complete with page number and MLA style).

2. Later, Miss Maudie explains why it's a sin. What reason does she give (write a **quote** complete with page number and MLA style)? After the **quote**, interpret her statement(s).

3. What does Atticus do that impresses his children? Why isn't he proud of this skill?

\*Specific notes about this question (symbolism lesson):

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4. Write one big idea and three supporting details about this chapter. (Use the back, if needed.)

## **Character List for To Kill a Mockingbird**

Jean Louise “Scout” Finch -

Atticus Finch -

Jeremy Atticus “Jem” Finch -

Arthur “Boo” Radley -

Bob Ewell -

Charles Baker “Dill” Harris -

Miss Maudie Atkinson -

Calpurnia -

Aunt Alexandra -

Mayella Ewell -

Tom Robinson -

Mrs. Henry Lafayette Dubose -

Nathan Radley -

Heck Tate -

Mr. Underwood -

Mr. Dolphus Raymond -

Mr. Walter Cunningham -

Walter Cunningham -

Uncle Jack Finch -

Judge Taylor –

Miss Rachel Haverford –

Miss Stephanie Crawford –

; ) Tim Johnson -