

## CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

1. Describe the confrontation between Atticus and Mr. Ewell. How serious do you think Mr. Ewell is? How did Atticus respond to him?
2. Summarize Atticus and Jem's conversation about the judicial process. What do they each think should be changed about the process?
3. Atticus tells Jem that a jury of young people would have acquitted Tom, because, "So far nothing in life has interfered with your reasoning process. Those are twelve reasonable men in everyday life, Tom's jury, but you saw something come between them and reason. You saw the same thing that night in front of the jail"(251). What is the thing that comes between people and reason?
4. According to Atticus, what are the challenges of selecting a jury? Which jury member wanted to find Tom not guilty? Why does this surprise Jem?
5. What does Aunt Alexandra mean when she says that Scout should not socialize with Walter Cunningham because although his family are "good folks. . . they are not our kind of folks." (255) What do her comments reveal about her values and prejudices? What effect do her words have on Scout?
6. At the end of this chapter Scout and Jem have a conversation about how many different kinds of people there are in the world. Summarize each of their points of view about the world.
7. What insight has Jem's experience given him about Boo Radley? Do you think he's right about Boo? Explain your answer.

## CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

1. Read the first few paragraphs of this chapter and explain why Scout's comment that, "Immediately thereafter, the ladies adjourned for refreshments," is an example of irony (261).
2. What sort of subjects do the ladies gossip about? Cite a specific quote to support your answer.

3. What do you think Scout means when she says, "Ladies in bunches always filled me with a vague apprehension and a firm desire to be elsewhere"(262)? Why would groups of ladies have this effect on her?
4. In this chapter, the women of the missionary circle consistently behave in ways that contradict their outwardly expressed Christian values to reveal their hypocrisy. Find a quote or passage from the text that you feel reveals the hypocrisy of the missionary circle or is an example of irony.
5. Explain how Miss Maudie Anderson serves as a foil for the other women in the missionary circle.
6. On pages 266-267 Scout compares the world of women with the world of men. Summarize her observations about both worlds. Cite a specific quote from the text as evidence.
7. Why does Atticus return home early? What does he say is especially tragic about what has happened?
8. In this chapter, how do Miss Maudie and Aunt Alexandra give Scout specific examples of what it means to be a lady? What do their actions reveal about the strength of women in the face of tragedy or adversity?

## CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

1. How does Jem demonstrate that he is becoming more compassionate and empathetic? What does Scout's comment that, "Jem was the one who was getting more like a girl every day, not I," suggest about gender roles in the 1930s South? (273)
2. What did Jem and Dill witness Atticus and Calpurnia doing? How do you think this experience impacted them?
3. How did most of the people in Maycomb react to the news of Tom's death?
4. Describe the editorial that Mr. Underwood wrote about Tom's death. What point do you think he was trying to make?

5. What do you think Scout means when she says, "Then Mr. Underwood's meaning became clear: Atticus had used every tool available to free men to save Tom Robinson, but in the secret courts of men's hearts Atticus had no case"(276)?

6. When Mr. Ewell hears news of Tom's death, he comments, "one down two to go"(276). What do you think this statement means? How is it an example of foreshadowing?

## CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

1. What do Scout's feelings when passing the Radley place suggest about her character's growth? Cite a specific quote to support your answer.

2. What comment does Atticus make that lets Scout know that her father was aware of everything they did to try to communicate with Boo Radley?

3. As she thinks back on the events of the summer Tom Robinson was killed, Scout muses, "There was one off thing, though, that I never understood: in spite of Atticus's shortcomings as a parent, people were content to re-elect him to the state legislature that year, as usual, without opposition"(279). Why is the fact that Atticus was re-elected without opposition significant?

4. Summarize the lesson that Miss Gates teaches about democracy and prejudice. What is ironic about this lesson?

5. What does Atticus say about Hitler?

6. Why does Jem get angry when Scout asks him about the trial? What does Atticus say to explain why Jem is acting the way he is?

## CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

1. What three things “out of the ordinary” happened the October after Tom Robinson’s trial?
2. What signs suggest that Bob Ewell could be dangerous? Use specific evidence from the text to support your answer.
3. What reason does Atticus say Bob Ewell has for holding a grudge against people connected to the trial?
4. Look up Cotton Tom Heflin. What does Atticus mean when he says, “You tell Cecil I’m about as radical as Cotton Tom Heflin”(287)?
5. Why did the parents of Maycomb decide it was necessary to organize a Halloween program for the children? What will the new Halloween program be like? What role will Scout be playing in the pageant?
6. Why don’t Atticus and Aunt Alexandra attend the Halloween program with Scout and Jem?
7. Find an example of foreshadowing in the last two pages of this chapter. What do you think is about to happen?

## CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

1. Why do you think Harper Lee has Scout and Jem hear a mockingbird singing on their way to the school auditorium? What could it symbolize?
2. Find an example of a detail that foreshadows the fact that Scout and Jem are in danger.
3. What is the Halloween Pageant about? Why does Scout miss her cue? Why does she insist on hiding backstage until the audience leaves?

4. What causes Jem to become concerned as he and Scout are walking home in the dark? Find a quote from the text that helps create a suspenseful mood.

5. What happens to Jem and Scout? Why does Scout keep asking if Jem is dead? What does her question suggest about the seriousness of the attack?

6. Who does Heck Tate find dead? Who do you think killed him? Support your answer with a specific quote from the text.

## CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE

1. What evidence does Heck Tate find to suggest that Mr. Ewell was trying to kill Atticus's children rather than just scare them? What physical evidence links Ewell directly to the attack on Scout?

2. What details in the description of the stranger that saved Jem and Scout give her clues to his identity? Who does she realize he is? Include quotes from the text in your answer.

## CHAPTER THIRTY

1. On page 312, Scout observes, "I wondered why Atticus was inviting us to the front porch instead of the living room, then I understood. The living room lights were awfully strong." Why is Atticus sensitive to the brightness of the lights?

2. What specific things does Scout do as she interacts with Boo that suggest that she has been impacted by the example of ladies like Aunt Alexandra and Miss Maudie? Include a quote from the text to support your answer.

3. Who does Atticus think killed Bob Ewell? Cite a quote from the text to support your answer.

4. Read Atticus's reason for wanting the case to go to trial (314) and summarize his reasons in your own words. .

5. What does Mr. Tate say he is going to report happened to Bob Ewell? When Atticus insists on a full investigation and trial, Mr. Tate says, "I do know that for once you haven't been able to put two and two together, and we've got to settle this tonight"(316). What do you think Mr. Tate believes that Atticus is not putting together?

6. What does Mr. Tate say that lets Atticus and Scout know that Boo Radley killed Mr. Ewell? What reason does he give for not letting anyone else know?

7. What does Scout say that lets her father know that she understands the truth about what happened?

## CHAPTER THIRTY-ONE

1. What specific details in this chapter suggest that Boo Radley can be gentle and kind?

2. What does Scout mean when she says, "I would lead him through our house, but I would never lead him home"(319)? Why does she take steps to make it look like Boo is escorting her instead of her leading him? How are her actions a reflection of grace?

3. What does Scout realize about the type of neighbor she has been? Cite a specific quote from the text to support your answer.

4. Explain how standing on Boo's porch helps Scout see through his eyes. What does she realize about him?

5. What do you think Scout means when she says, "As I made my way home, I thought Jem and I would get grown but there wasn't much left for us to learn, except possibly algebra"(321)? What lessons have she and Jem learned?