

## **Study questions: To Kill A Mockingbird & Old Man and the Sea      Freshman Honors English**

These are due the second day of class; answers should be typed or neatly and clearly written in pen. These questions are designed to assist in gleaning essential elements of this wonderful, beloved American novel.

### **To Kill A Mockingbird**

#### **Chapter 1**

1. Pretend you are writing a description of Maycomb for a travel magazine of the 1930s. Describe the town in detail.
2. The townspeople of Maycomb have some fears and superstitions about the Radley Place. Describe these fears and superstitions.

#### **Chapter 2**

1. The students in the class show some prejudice against Miss Caroline when she tells the class she is from Winston County, Alabama. Explain this prejudice.

#### **Chapter 3**

1. Why does Atticus say that Scout is not to mention the compromise they made when she goes to school?

#### **Chapter 4**

1. Why has "Calpurnia's tyranny, unfairness, and meddling... faded to gentle grumblings of general disapproval," according to Scout?
2. What does Jem call Miss Caroline's teaching methods?

#### **Chapter 5**

1. What does Miss Maudie mean when she says Atticus is the same in his house as he is on the public streets?
2. Atticus uses something like a threat when he finds the children trying to get a note to Boo Radley. What is the threat?

#### **Chapter 6**

1. How do you know that Jem respects his father?
2. What promise/understanding exists between Scout and Dill?

#### **Chapter 7**

1. What do the children leave in the knothole of the tree?
2. What does Mr. Nathan Radley do to the tree where the gifts are placed?

#### **Chapter 8**

1. What is the significance of what Scout asks Atticus after he returns from the Radley place after Mrs. Radley dies?

#### **Chapter 9**

1. Why does Atticus take a case which is causing so much dissension in the neighborhood?

#### **Chapter 10**

1. Why does Scout wish he father was a "devil from hell"?

#### **Chapter 11**

1. What does Atticus require Jem to do to make amends for his rage?

#### **Chapter 12**

1. Why should one not tell all one knows, according to Calpurnia?

#### **Chapter 13**

1. What does Scout mean when she says that Alexandra has a preoccupation with heredity?

#### **Chapter 14**

1. Why does Bill run away?

#### **Chapter 15**

1. What breaks the tension when the mob comes to the house?

#### **Chapter 16**

1. What does Atticus say had brought the mob to its senses?
2. What two things keep Mr. Raymond from being "trash"?

#### **Chapter 17**

1. What excuse does Jem use for not taking Scout home?

#### **Chapter 18**

1. What question does Atticus ask Mayella that makes her furious?

#### **Chapter 19**

1. What does Scout say is a sure sign of guilt?

#### **Chapter 20**

1. What does Atticus say is a great leveler?

#### **Chapter 21**

1. Why is Rev. Sykes not sure that the jury will decide in Tom's favor?

#### **Chapter 22**

1. How do the people show their appreciation to Atticus the next morning?

#### **Chapter 23**

1. What is Atticus' response when he was asked if he's afraid to fight?

#### **Chapter 24**

1. What bad news does Atticus bring home?

#### **Chapter 25**

1. Why do Jem and Dill go with Atticus to the Robinson place?

#### **Chapter 26**

1. How does Scout define democracy?

#### **Chapter 27**

1. Who defends Helen against Mr. Ewell?

#### **Chapter 28**

1. Why are the children among the last ones to leave the auditorium?

#### **Chapter 29**

1. What is Atticus' one sign of inner turmoil?
2. Why does Mr. Tate say Mr. Ewell acted the way he did?

#### **Chapter 30**

1. For what does Atticus thank Boo?

#### **Chapter 31**

1. What makes Scout sad in thinking back on all the gifts Boo had given them?

Keep an ongoing reading log. Use regular lined school paper, date each entry, the number of pages read at each sitting (usually 5 to 10 pages at a time). You may include favorite quotes (remember quotation marks), or you may do a simple summary, or a more complex response of commentary, insight, or even conjecture about where the story might be going. Try to intersperse a different response each time you make an entry.

These will be turned in along with the Mockingbird study questions on the second day of class. The way in which you approach the reading log will indicate much to your teacher about the kind of Honors student in English 9 he or she may expect.