**To Kill A Mockingbird Chapter 11 – 14 questions**

**Part One: Chapter 11**

**Vocabulary**

apoplectic: furious

hygiene: health

interdict: ban

numerous: many

palliation: lessening

Philippic: an attack; a tirade

premise: foundation

reconnaissance: scouting mission

rectitude: righteousness

skulked: tried to hide

1. Why do Jem and Scout hate Mrs. Dubose?
2. What is Atticus’s answer to Scout when she asks why he is defending Tom Robinson when everyone else seems to think it’s wrong?
3. How does Atticus define “nigger-lover” to Scout?
4. How is Jem made to atone to Mrs. Dubose for ruining her flowers?
5. Why does Atticus consider Mrs. Dubose the bravest person he knew?
6. Explain what Atticus means when he says: ***I wanted you to see what***

***real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his***

***hand. It’s when you know you’re licked before you begin but you begin anyway***

***and you see it through no matter what.***

1. What theme(s) are conveyed through this quote? Explain.

**Part Two : Chapter 12**

**Vocabulary**

appalling: sickening, horrific

asafoetida: a strong-smelling resin that is ground and used as a medicine and spice

austere: meager

boded: acted as an omen of

compensation: payment

contemptuously: disdainfully

fret: worry

habiliments: clothes, trappings

petticoat: an underskirt or slip worn beneath a dress

rotogravure: special type of printing used especially for high-quality photographs and glossy inserts

1. What change has come over Jem as the second half of the book begins?
2. Calpurnia says, I don’t have a real birthday.” What does she mean by that?
3. Read the following quotation: *That Calpurnia led a modest double life never dawned on me. The idea that she had a separate existence outside our household was a novel one, to say nothing of her having command of two languages…*

What two languages does Calpurnia know? What reason does she give for speaking differently at church?

**4.** At First Purchase African M.E. Church a mob forms around the children, and Scout says she can sense that they are being “advanced upon.” Why?

**5.** Whose arrival startles Calpurnia and the children at the end of the chapter?

**Part Two: Chapter 13**

**Vocabulary**

Bosom: chest, breasts

Curtness: speaking in an abrupt, nearly rude manner

Formidable: strong, unassailable

Hereditary: genetic

Incestuous: marked by romantic or sexual relationships with relations or family

Myopic: short- or near-sighted

Obliquely: indirectly

Prerogative: right to do something

Shinny: moonshine, booze

Tactful: polite

1. What does Atticus “try” to do and fail at which Scout later realizes requires a woman to do properly? Why might a woman be better at it?
2. How does Scout define the “caste system” of Maycomb? What meaning is carried by the term “caste system”?
3. Aunt Alexandra is embarrassed that Jem and Scout do not know more about what subject? Why does it matter to her?

**Part Two: Chapter 14**

**Vocabulary**

antagonize: make angry

fussing: fighting

gouging: digging into or trying to poke something out

infallible: perfect, foolproof

negligee: a sheer nightgown

penitentiary: jail or prison

pensive: thoughtful, meditative

perish: die

tentative: exploratory, half-hearted

1. The Finches were long known for good breeding and fairness. What are they known for now?
2. How do Atticus and Aunt Alexandra react when they find out Jem and Scout attended church with Calpurnia?
3. What does Jem threaten to do if Scout continues to antagonize Aunt Alexandra? What are the implications of his threat?
4. What does Scout think is under her bed? What does it turn out to be?
5. What did Jem do when he “broke the remaining code of childhood”?
6. Why did Dill run away? What do Jem and Scout think stops Boo from doing so, too?