**Part One: Chapter 15**

**Vocabulary**

***affliction:*** disease

***begrudge:*** hold against

***bob-white***: a small quail with a distinctive two-part call

***change of venue:*** to move a trial to a location different from where the crime allegedly occurred, usually in order to obtain a more impartial jury

***discreet:*** taking care not to cause embarrassment or call attention to oneself

***futility:*** uselessness, pointlessness

***inaudible:*** soft or silent

***ominous:*** foreboding

***uncouth:*** rude

**Questions**

**1.** What is the nightmare that descends upon the Finches?

**2.** What does Scout notice about Heck Tate and a few other men coming to talk to Atticus? What does this mean to her?

**3.** What does Atticus say when Jem asks if the group of men were a gang?

**4.** Why does Atticus leave the house late at night? Other than the time, what is unusual about his departure?

**5.** Who disperses the mob and with what weapon?

**6.** Who was watching the whole time the mob was threatening Atticus, the children, and Tom?

**Part Two: Chapter 16**

**Vocabulary**

***affluent:*** rich

***akimbo:*** bent, especially arms bent at the elbows with hands on one’s hips

***conceded:*** to give someone else the point or admit that someone else has won

***cutting (teeth):*** having one’s teeth come in, as for babies and then children getting their adult teeth

***elucidate:*** show, explain

***gala:*** a grand party

***litigants:*** the people or parties involved in a lawsuit

***morbid:*** gruesome

***prominent:*** notable, famous

***solicitor:*** an officer of the court that helps manage and advise the attorneys on cases

***subpoena:*** a legal document ordering an individual to appear in court and give testimony

**Questions**

**1.** What does Aunt Alexandra scold Atticus for saying in front of Calpurnia? Why?

**2.** What town event brings out every citizen in Maycomb? Who is one notable exception?

**3.** What is unusual about Dolphus Raymond?

**4.** Why does Jem find the Raymond children sad?

**5.** How is the Maycomb County courthouse described? What do the pillars from the first

building represent?

**6.** Atticus was both appointed to defend Tom and “aims to defend him.” What is the difference and

how is that significant?

**7.** With whom do the children watch the trial?

**8.** How is Judge Taylor described?

**Part Two: Chapter 17**

**Vocabulary**

***affirmative:*** positive, in agreement

***amiably:*** nicely or in a friendly manner

***audibly:*** able to be heard

***bantam cock:*** a small rooster

***corrugated iron:*** wavy or ridged galvanized metal usually used in industrial applications

***gullet:*** throat

***import:*** the meaning of something

***serene:*** quiet and calm

***sullen:*** quietly angry

***terse:*** short

***turbulent:*** chaotic

**1.** Who is the first person to testify?

**2.** On what facts does Atticus concentrate when he questions Sheriff Tate?

**3.** How are the Ewells described?

**4.** What are the only things that are cared for at the Ewell’s place? What do they signify?

**5.** What is the only thing Bob Ewell has that his black neighbors lack?

**6.** What does Atticus ask Bob Ewell to do on the witness stand? What is he trying to demonstrate?

**Part One: Chapter 18**

**Vocabulary**

arid: dry

chiffarobe: a dresser with drawers

evoked: brought out

immaterial: unimportant in a matter, not germane

irrelevant: having nothing to do with the subject at hand

mollified: soothed

tedious: slow-going and overly complicated

**1.** Why does Mayella think Atticus is making fun of her?

**2.** As she testifies, what do we learn about Mayella’s home life? How does this affect the reader’s sympathies?

**3.** What is striking about Tom Robinson when he stands up?

**4.** How many witnesses does Atticus call?

**Part One: Chapter 19**

**Vocabulary**

ex cathedra: with the authority of one’s position or standing

grope: try to grasp

impudent: cheeky or rude

predicament: problem, situation

subtlety: lacking obviousness

volition: choice

**1.** Does Tom admit to chopping up the chiffarobe?

**2.** According to Scout, who is the loneliest person in the world? Why?

**3.** According to Tom, what really happened at the Ewell place?

**4.** If Tom was innocent, why did he run?

**5.** Who stands up and shouts in court, and what is said?

**6.** As Mr. Gilmer questions Tom, what does Tom admit to that constitutes his real crime in the eyes of the white community?

**7.** Why does Dill start crying? Does anyone share his feelings?

**Part Two: Chapter 20**

**Vocabulary**

capital charge: a crime that carries the threat of the death penalty

corroborative evidence: evidence that strengthens or supports the theory of the case and other

testimony and evidence

detachment: without emotion

indicted: brought up on formal criminal charges

iota: speck

minute*(adj.)*: very small

perpetrated: committed or carried out by someone

temerity: nerve unmitigated: complete

**1.** What happens when Dolphus Raymond lets Dill have a sip from his paper sack?

**2.** Why does Dolphus Raymond “lie” to the townspeople?

**3.** Why is Atticus say “cheatin’ a colored man is ten times worse than cheatin’ a white man”?

**4.** What “evil assumption” is Atticus fighting in trying to get the jury to find Tom not guilty?

**5.** What two things does Atticus do in court before and during his closing remarks that the children have never before witnessed? Why might Atticus do these things?

**Part Two: Chapter 21**

**Vocabulary**

demurred: objected to

indignant: righteously angry

preliminary: introductory, coming before the main part

psychical: having to do with the psyche or the mind

remorse: regret

tacit: understood or indirectly agreed to

**1.** How does Atticus find out the children are in court?

**2.** How does Jem feel about the trial as they break for deliberations?

**3.** As they wait for the verdict, Scout gets a feeling that the courtroom is like that “deserted, waiting, empty street” where “every wood door in the neighborhood was shut as tight as the doors of the Radley place.” What other scene in the book is being referred to? What literary devices are being employed through this comparison and to what end?

**4.** How do we know the jury has convicted Tom before the verdict has been read?

**5.** Why does Reverend Sykes ask Scout to stand?

**Part Two: Chapter 22**

**Vocabulary**

conviction: the finding that a defendent is guilty of charges brought against him or her

cynical: jaded; without hope

fatalistic: believing in fate or destiny

feral: wild

heathen: lacking religion and cultivation

quivered: shook slightly

**1.** As the chapter opens, who is crying and why**?**

**2.** What act brings Atticus to tears?

**3.** How does Atticus justify to Aunt Alexandra Jem and Scout’s attending the trial?

**4.** Miss Maudie tells Jem and Scout that the people of Maycomb are the safest people in the world and are “rarely called on to be Christians.” What does she mean by this?

**5.** What happens to Atticus in front of the post office?

**Part Two: Chapter 23**

**Vocabulary**

acquittal: the finding that a defendent is not guilty of charges brought against him or her

adamant: sure, unwavering

circumstantial evidence: evidence that does not provide direct proof; its usefulness must be inferred

furtive: secretive

infantile: babyish, childish

vehement: powerful, fervid

wrathfully: furiously

**1.** How does Atticus react to Bob Ewell’s threat?

**2.** If Atticus lost the case, why is Bob Ewell angry with him?

**3.** Why, according to Atticus, are juries in Maycomb unrepresentative of the community?

**4.** In Tom’s trial what gave Atticus a glimmer of hope that things were beginning to change?

**5.** When Scout begins feeling generous and friendly toward Walter Cunningham, what does Aunt Alexandra say? How does Scout react to her?

**6.** What gives the Finch family “background” according to Jem?

**7.** What new hypothesis do the children form for why Boo won’t come out?

**Part Two: Chapter 24**

**Vocabulary**

brevity: briefness

bovine: relating to a cow

charlotte: a molded dessert usually lined with cake or cookies and filled with cream or fruit

communal: belonging to everybody or to the community

deceit: deliberate lie

impertinence: rudeness

squalid: dirty, unclean

sulky: dissatisfied; pouting

**1.** What is ironic about the concerns of Aunt Alexandra’s missionary circle?

**2.** What is different about Scout when the missionary circle is present?

**3.** What is the problem that Mrs. Merriweather has been having since the trial? Who does she suggest is to blame?

**4.** What news does Atticus come home with?

**Part Two: Chapter 25**

**Vocabulary**

demise: death; end

hot gas: meaningless talk

scowling: frowning in anger

veneer: outer covering

**1.** Who is getting to be more like a girl every day? Explain.

**2.** How does Helen react to the news of Tom’s death?

**3.** How does the rest of Maycomb react to Tom’s death?

**Part Two: Chapter 26**

**Vocabulary**

allegedly: supposedly

peculiar: strange

recluse: someone who chooses to be alone

remorse: regret

**1.** What does Scout now regret doing?

**2.** What secret do the children discover that Atticus has known all along?

**3.** “The events of the summer hung over us like smoke in a closed room” is an example of what? How does this help set the tone?

**4.** According to Miss Gates, Scout’s teacher, what makes Nazi Germany a dictatorship and the United States a democracy?

**5.** What doesn’t sit well with Scout about her explanation?

**Part Two: Chapter 27**

**Vocabulary**

contraption: machine, especially one built by hand

finale: end

florid: ornate

National Recovery Act: An act passed during the Great Depression that gave the president authority to regulate industry and establish a public works program.

notoriety: ill fame

**1.** What three notable things happen in Maycomb?

**2.** Why does Atticus think Bob Ewell holds a grudge against Judge Taylor?

**Part Two: Chapter 28**

**Vocabulary**

gallant: gentlemanly

irascible: hot-tempered

primeval: basic; intrinsic to one’s nature

repertoire: collection of skills

sanitary: clean

untrammeled: unrestrained

**1.** The children hear a mockingbird singing in the Radley’s tree. Of what is the mockingbird a symbol in the book?

**2.** How does Mrs. Merriweather translate the Latin phrase, “Ad Astra Per Aspera,” for the more simple folks attending the pageant?

**3.** What happens to Jem and Scout as they walk back from the pageant?

**4.** What does Heck Tate find at the spot where they were attacked?

**Part Two: Chapter 31**

**Vocabulary**

acquiescence: giving up

amiable: friendly

enacting: acting out; playing roles in a drama

scampered: scurried

stoop: bend down

**1.** What does Boo ask Scout? What does it reveal about him?

**2.** When does Scout see Boo again?

**3.** What does Scout do as she looks out from the Radley porch?

**4.** According to Scout, after everything that happened to them during the time period in which the book takes place, what do they still need to learn?