To Kill a Mockingbird Questions

Chapter 2

* This chapter is about the first half of Scout’s first day at school. Is it a good start to the year, yes or no? Give examples to back up your answer (2-3 incidents).
* What do you think of Miss Caroline as a teacher? Why do you think she acts this way?

Chapter 3

* What is the rest of the school day like for Scout?
* Who is Burris Ewell? What is his relationship with school like?
* What arrangement do Scout and Atticus agree to?
* Quick write: What examples of social injustice do we see in the school? Is Atticus and Scout’s arrangement just or unjust? Explain your answers.

Chapter 4

* What do Scout and Jem find in the knot-hole? Where is this knot-hole located? How do you think those things are getting there?
* When Dill returns what game do they begin playing over the summer?
* Atticus catches them while playing the game. Do you think he approves or disapproves? Does he even know what they are playing?

Chapter 5

* Who is Miss Maudie? What is her and Scout/Jem’s relationship like?
* Dill and Jem try once again to get Boo Radley’s attention. What is their plan? What stops them from completing their mission?

Chapter 6

* What kind of trouble do the trio get into in this chapter? What happens to Jem because of this? What excuse do they use to cover it up?
* What is the “official” story that the neighborhood thinks happened?

Chapter 7

* What did Jem find when he returned to the Radley yard? What does this imply?
* What do the children find in the knothole over the course of the chapter?
* What happens to the knothole? Who did it? What was the reason that it happened? Do you believe it? Does it change any of your theories?
* Why does Jem react the way that he does to the knothole issue?

Chapter 8

* What happens in Maycomb that hasn’t happened since 1885?
* What tragedy strikes the neighborhood in the night?
* What happens to Scout as she is watching the tragedy? Who did it to her? What does this action suggest about the character? How does Scout feel about it?
* How does Miss Maudie react to the tragedy the next day?

Chapter 9

* Describe the case Atticus currently has that is causing tension between the Finch family and the rest of the town? Is it a case that Atticus expects to win?
* We meet three new members of the Finch family over the holidays. Describe them.
* What gets Scout in trouble? Who reprimands her and how?
* What forms of injustice do we see in this chapter? (between Scout and Jack, Jack and Atticus’ discussion)

Chapter 10

* What present do Jem and Scout get for Christmas? Who teaches them to use it?
* What is the sin the kids are warned about? Why is it a sin? How could this apply to social justice?
* How is Atticus different than the other fathers?
* What do we learn about Atticus at the end of the chapter? Why is this skill so surprising to Jem and Scout?

Chapter 11

* Describe Mrs. Dubose and her relationship with the Finch children.
* What does Jem end up doing in retaliation to some of the things Mrs. Dubose said? What is his punishment?
* What was the true purposes behind the punishment? Describe it both from Mrs. Dubose and Atticus’ perspective.

Chapter 12

* Where does Calpurnia take Jem and Scout in this chapter? When they arrive how do people feel about them being there?
* What is different about the service they attend in this chapter and the services they usually attend?
* What do we learn about Tom Robinson’s family in this chapter?
* What does Scout learn that surprises her? Why does it surprise her?

Chapter 13

* Who comes to stay with the Finches? How does the town receive her? Why is she there?
* How does their new visitor try and change things?
* What lesson does she want to teach Jem and Scout? Why?

Chapter 14 (SKIPPED)

* What does Aunt Alexandria try to change about the Finch household? Does Atticus go along with her idea? Give specific examples to back up your answer.
* What does Scout discover under her bed? Why is it there? Give specific reasons.

Chapter 15

* What concern does Heck Tate bring to Atticus’ attention? What does Atticus eventually do about this concern?
* Where do the kids eventually find Atticus? What is he doing there?
* What does Atticus encounter during the night? What are they planning to do?
* What eventually stops the situation from escalating any further? Why do you think this changes the outcome of the night?

Chapter 16 (SKIPPED)

* What is the mood in town the day of the trial?
* Why do the kids need to sneak in to the courthouse?
* Who eventually helps them find a seat? What section do the kids end up in?

Chapter 17

* Who is the first witness that is called? What specific details does Atticus seem to focus on with this witness?
* Who is the second witness that is called? What kind of man does he seem to be? How do we know this?
* What details does Atticus seem focused on with the second witness?

Chapter 18

* Who is the next witness? What further details about the incident do we learn from her? What issues with her story does Atticus point out during his questioning?
* What do we learn about Tom this chapter? What issues does this cause with the story we have heard so far?

Chapter 19

* Who is the final witness that is brought to the witness stand? How does his story differ from what we have heard so far?
* What points does Mr. Gilmer try and make against Tom?
* What comment does Tom make that causes an issue? Why do you think this comment is an issue?
* Who gets upset towards the end of this chapter? Why?

Chapter 20

* What is Mr. Raymond’s secret? Why does he do this?
* Summarize Atticus’ closing arguments. What points does he make that calls the case into question?
* Who is the real guilty party according to Atticus?

Chapter 21

* What is Jem’s expected outcome? Why does he think this?
* What time does the jury finally return to give a verdict? Why is this surprising to Jem and Scout?
* What is the ultimate outcome of the trial?

Chapter 22 (SKIPPED)

* How does Atticus react to the outcome of the trial? Consider both the night of and the morning after.
* What is delivered to the Finch family the following morning? Why does this happen?
* What is Jem’s viewpoint on the whole situation? What is Miss Maudie’s?

Chapter 23

* Who is worried about Bob’s threat? What ideas do they have to try and stop something from happening?
* Who isn’t worried about Bob’s threat? What is their reasoning behind their lack of concern?
* What examples of injustice do we read about in this chapter? (Maudie and Walter)

Chapter 24 \*Colorblind

* What are your thoughts on the missionary circle’s discussion of the Mrunas? How does this compare/contrast to their discussion about the African American community?
* Who does not seem to share the same attitudes as the rest of the group?
* What news interrupts the festivities during this chapter?

Chapter 25 (SKIPPED)

* Why does Jem tell Scout to leave the Roly-Poly bug alone? How that relate to Mockingbirds?
* Describe the scene when Jem and Dill accompany Atticus and Calpurnia.
* What point does Mr. Underwood try and make in his article in the paper?

Chapter 26 (SKIPPED)

* What does Atticus finally reveal about what he know about the kids activities?
* What definition do they give for democracy in school? How does this apply to the theme of injustice? Why does Scout take issue with this discussion?

Chapter 27

* What trouble does Bob Ewell get involved in this chapter? Why is this a cause for concern?
* What event is happening in Maycomb for Halloween? Why is this taking place? Which of the Finches will be attending?

Chapter 28

* At the carnival what does Scout do or buy? What is the one thing she doesn’t do? Why not?
* What is the title of the pageant? What does it mean?
* What happens on the way home from the pageant?

Chapter 29

* How does Aunt Alexandria react to the nights events? What were her feelings?
* Were there likely any witnesses or anyone who heard anything? Why or why not?
* Who and what saved Scout and Jem that night?

Chapter 30

* Where does everyone go to discuss the events of the evening? Why do they go to this particular area of the house?
* What do Atticus and Heck Tate argue over? What is the misunderstanding here? Who is Heck Tate “thinking of”?
* What is Heck Tate trying to do in this chapter? What does he mean by “Let the dead bury the dead”?

Chapter 31

* What is the only thing that Arthur “Boo” Radley says this chapter?
* Where does Scout finally learn and really get a sense for the lesson of “stand in someone else’s shoes and walk around in them”?