

Mrs. Turnbull
English III-H

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD- QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

Answer each of the following questions in a paragraph or two. (These do not have to be essays, but they should be thoughtful responses.) Your answers should be turned in on the first day of school.

1. When does this novel take place? What was going on in the country at the time that impacts the events in the novel?
2. The novel spends a lot of time on various episodes before the trial of Tom Robinson, arguably the main event of the novel, is introduced. Why wait so long to introduce the trial? How does the author use these early chapters to contribute to the novel's larger meaning/themes?
3. Who changes most in the novel? What is the nature of this change?
4. Boo Radley and Tom Robinson are two characters who are central to the novel but are not given a lot of development by the author. What is their role in the novel? Are they connected to each other?
5. Consider the narrative perspective in the novel. Who tells us this story? How does this impact the novel and the reader's perspective on the characters and events in the novel? Why do you think the author makes this choice? (For example, why not have Atticus or Jem tell the story?)
6. What is the meaning of the title in the novel? Who are mockingbirds in the story?
7. What is the overall message of this novel? While racism is a focus of the novel, it is only one part of the story. How does the trial fit into the novel's larger message?