

Summer Review Questions
English II
To Kill a Mockingbird

Directions: Have these ten questions answered and ready to submit on the first day of class. Your answers should be typed and in complete sentences.

1st Half

1. Knowing that most of his friends, peers, and acquaintances are against him, Atticus decides to defend Tom Robinson. Why?
2. Explain the children's fascination with the Radleys.
3. How does the setting of this novel enhance the conflicts within it?
4. Explain why ignorance or prejudice is not limited to class or race in this classic.
5. Why can Atticus's parental philosophy be considered "progressive" for the time period?
6. Describe the event in which Atticus unintentionally puts any doubt to rest in his children's minds about his physical capabilities.
7. How does Scout innocently save her father's life one night while Atticus acts as a sentry for Tom Robinson?

2nd Half

8. Atticus tells his children to never harm mockingbirds as he gives them their air rifles. Why? Apply the mockingbird motif to Boo Radley and Tom Robinson. Furthermore, explain how Boo functions as a guardian angel for the children.
9. Why do you think Harper Lee chose to tell this story through the eyes of a young child; in other words, what inferences are you allowed to make as a result? What lessons does Scout learn about race, class, and gender as she matures?
10. Give a detailed character analysis of Atticus Finch. Through example, how does Atticus teach the children about courage? What morals does he try to impart to his children, and what lessons do they learn from him? Establish Atticus Finch as a true Christian.