

Junior  
Certificate  
School  
Programme



Harper Lee

# To Kill a Mockingbird

Student Workbook



An Roinn Oideachais  
agus Scileanna  
Department of  
Education and Skills

**PDST**  
Professional Development  
Service for Teachers | An tSeirbhís um Fhorbairt  
Ghairmiúil do Mhúinteoirí



Junior  
Certificate  
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**To Kill a  
Mockingbird**

**STUDENT WORKBOOK**



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## **To Kill a Mockingbird**

Student Workbook

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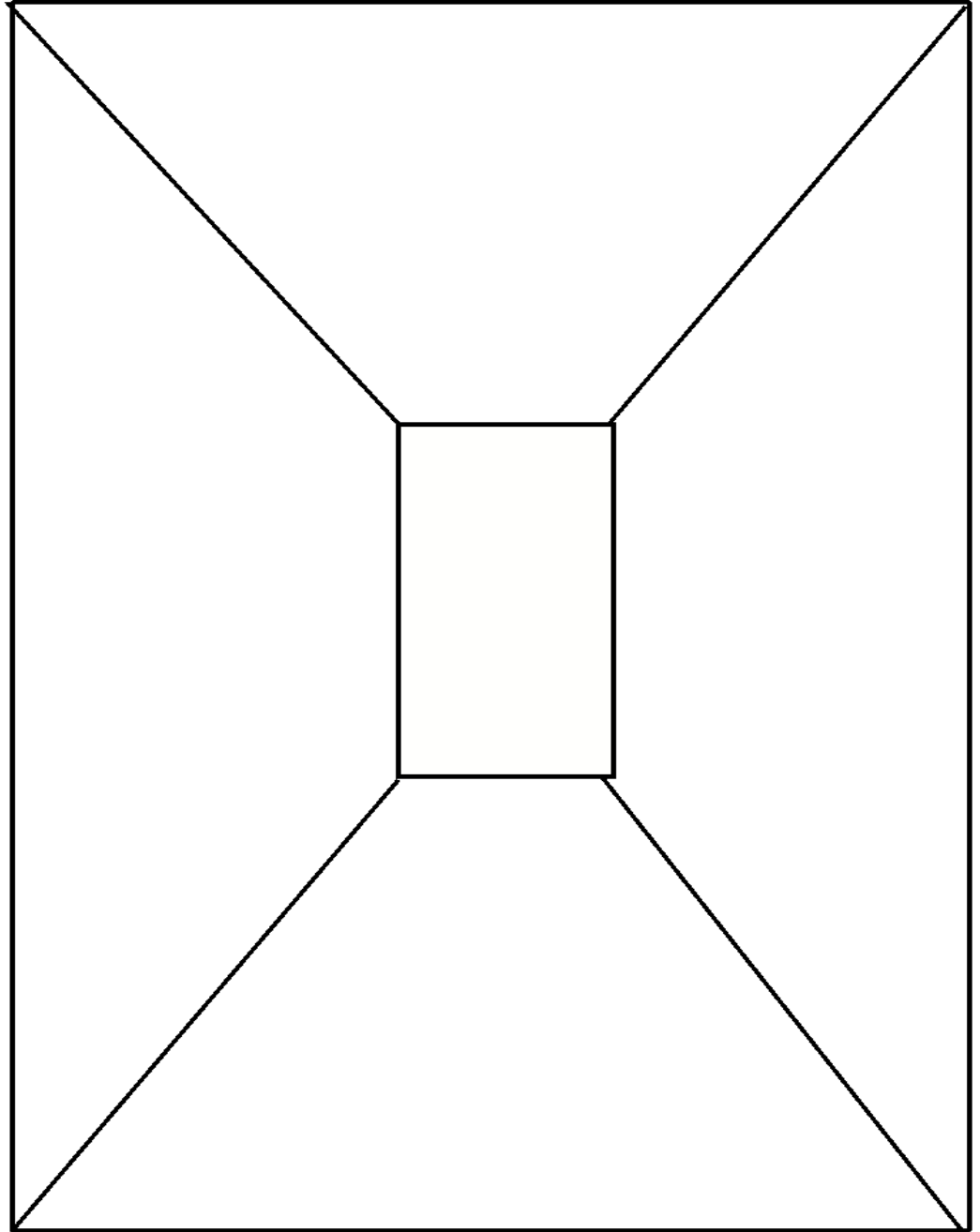
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*Written and shared by Siobhan Daly, PDST JCSP Advisor*

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### Being Part of a Community

Using the placemat below, consider what it means to be part of a community. Think about your own community. Are there any rules or norms that exist within your own community? Can you think of any decisions that you sometimes make in your community that you might make differently if you lived somewhere else? Think about this quietly and write what you think in your own section. Everyone should then complete their own section and then have discussion about this. When the group has agreed on points, write these in the middle section of the placemat.



## Rules In Our Lives

Think about the laws and rules that exist in our lives. Rules are there to protect us and keep us safe. Imagine that you get to make four rules that everybody must follow. Think about how these rules would affect the lives of others and how life would appear with your rule in place. For example, you may believe that people would have more freedom as a result of your rules. Remember to explain how you reached your conclusion. When you have finished, share your answers with the rest of the class and listen carefully to your classmates' answers. You may agree or disagree with some of their proposed rules!

### Rule Number One:

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Why did you create this rule?

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Would people like or dislike your rule? Why?

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**Rule Number Two:**

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Why did you create this rule?

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Would people like or dislike your rule? Why?

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**Rule Number Three:**

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Why did you create this rule?

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Would people like or dislike your rule? Why?

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**Rule Number Four:**

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Why did you create this rule?

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Would people like or dislike your rule? Why?

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**When you have finished the activity, listen to the rules that your classmates have invented.**

Which of these rules was your favourite? Why?

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Which of these rules was your least favourite? Why?

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## Research Activity

The novel is set in 1930s America. Jim Crow laws were part of society at this time.

Research three facts about Jim Crow laws. You might like to use the Internet to complete this search. Remember to stay safe on the Internet if you are using it. Record the facts below.

<b>Fact 1</b>	
<b>Fact 2</b>	
<b>Fact 3</b>	

How would it have been to live in society during that time?

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**CHAPTER 1:**

1. Who is the narrator of the story?

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2. What is Atticus' occupation?

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3. What kind of relationship do Scout and Jem have with their father?

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4. What are your impressions of Dill?

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**CHAPTER 1:**

5. Who is Boo Radley?

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6. Rumours are circulating about Boo Radley. Do you think that these rumours are fair?

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7. What does Dill dare Jem to do?

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**CHAPTER 2:**

1. Where is Miss Caroline from?

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2. What are your first impressions of Miss Caroline?

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3. How does Miss Caroline react when she discovers that Scout has been taught to read already?

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4. Do you think that Miss Caroline treats Scout fairly? Why?

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5. What did you learn about Scout in this chapter?

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**CHAPTER 3:**

1. Why does Scout rub Walter’s nose in the dirt? Do you think that she treats him fairly here?

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2. What did Walter pour on his food?

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3. Why does Calpurnia scold Scout?

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4. Who is Burris Ewell?

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**CHAPTER 3:**

5. Why does Burris only come to school once per year?

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6. Can you think of any differences between Scout and Burris?

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7. How does Scout feel about school? Why do you think she feels this way?

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**CHAPTER 4:**

1. What does Scout find in the tree in front of Radley Place?

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2. Jem and Scout find two pennies in the tree, which they keep. What would you have done with the pennies if you were in their position?

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3. Why does Scout not want to play-act with Dill initially?

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4. Jem tells Scout to "quit acting like a girl." Do you think that Jem is behaving fairly towards Scout when he says this?

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**CHAPTER 4:**

5. Why do the children decide to play-act Boo Radley’s story?

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6. How does Atticus feel about the children’s game?

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7. What does Scout think she heard inside Radley’s house?

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8. Imagine that you had to design an app or a game for Dill, Scout and Jem to play with. What app or game would you develop, and why? What would be the features of the game? Why do you think that the children would enjoy your chosen game?

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**CHAPTER 5:**

1. Why do they consider changing the characters' names in their game?

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2. Why does Scout start spending time with Miss Maudie?

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3. What are your impressions of Miss Maudie?

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4. What does Miss Maudie say about Boo Radley?

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5. What does Jem accidentally reveal to Atticus?

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**CHAPTER 6:**

1. Describe what Scout, Jem and Dill do in Radley’s yard at the beginning of the chapter.

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2. How do the children react to the shadow that they believe is coming towards them?

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3. What explanation does Dill give for Jem not wearing pants? Do you think that this is a realistic excuse?

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4. What is Miss Rachel shocked about?

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5. Why is Jem so eager to collect his pants as soon as possible?

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**CHAPTER 7:**

1. How is Scout finding school?

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2. What was strange about Jem’s shorts when he retrieved them? Who do you think was responsible for the changes?

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3. Name three items that Jem and Scout find under the tree throughout the chapter.

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4. According to Atticus, how much would the pocket watch be worth?

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**CHAPTER 7:**

5. Who do you think is leaving gifts at the tree? Why do you think this?

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6. What does Nathan Radley say about the tree?

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7. What does Scout notice about Jem when he returns?

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**CHAPTER 8:**

1. Describe the weather in Maycomb at the beginning of the chapter.

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2. What activity does Jem want to do when school is cancelled?

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3. What does Mr. Avery accuse the children of? Why do you think that he makes this accusation?

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**CHAPTER 8:**

4. What does Miss Maudie refer to the snowman as?

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5. Who was responsible for putting the blanket on Scout's shoulders? Were you surprised about this? Why?

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6. How does Miss Maudie react to her house burning down? How would you have reacted if you were in her position?

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**CHAPTER 9:**

1. What argument between Scout and Cecil Jacobs in school? Do you feel sympathy for either character here? Why?

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2. Why does Atticus decide to defend the case? What does this reveal about the society in the novel?

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3. What are the differences between Scout and Francis?

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4. What provokes Scout to attack Francis?

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5. What does Scout overhear Jack and Atticus discussing?

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**CHAPTER 10:**

1. What are the differences between Atticus and other men in the town?

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2. Why does Miss Maudie send Scout home?

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3. How does Calpurnia react after she sees the dog? Why do you think she reacts in this manner?

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4. Describe what happens between Mr. Tate, Atticus and Tim. Were you surprised by this development? Why?

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5. What does Miss Maudie say to Jem and Scout about their father?

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**CHAPTER 11:**

1. What are your impressions of Mrs. Dubose?

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2. Jem is frequently left offended by Mrs. Dubose’s insults. Atticus urges Jem to remember that she is unwell and continues to greet her every evening. What does this reveal about Atticus?

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3. What does Mrs. Dubose say to Jem about Atticus?

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CHAPTER 11

4. Atticus sends Jem to apologise. What does this reveal about Atticus?

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5. What punishment does Mrs. Dubose give to Jem?

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6. After Mrs. Dubose passes away, what does Atticus reveal to Jem? How does Jem react?

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**CHAPTER 12:**

1. What does Jem encourage Scout to do? How does Scout feel about this?

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2. Why can't Dill come to visit them this summer?

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3. Describe the cartoon of Atticus that the children discover in the newspaper.

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4. Why do the children initially feel uncomfortable at church?

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5. The church is an interesting experience for the children. What do they discover about the other churchgoers?

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**CHAPTER 13:**

1. What reason does Aunt Alexandra give for coming to stay?

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2. What are your impressions of Aunt Alexandra?

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3. What does Aunt Alexandra do in Maycomb? Do you think that she integrates well?

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4. How does Aunt Alexandra behave towards the children?

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**CHAPTER 14:**

1. How does Aunt Alexandra react when Scout informs her that they have gone to Calpurnia's church? Why do you think she reacts in this manner?

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2. Why do you think Aunt Alexandra scolds Atticus for keeping Calpurnia?

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3. Describe what happens when Jem investigates under Scout's bed.

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4. Why did Dill run away?

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5. What do you think might have happened if Dill had chosen not to run away from home, and instead had decided to stay with his mother and stepfather?

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**CHAPTER 15:**

1. What do the men discuss with Atticus?

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2. Why do Aunt Alexandra and Atticus argue?

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3. What is Jem afraid of?

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4. Why do the children decide to go into town at night?

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5. Describe what happens after Scout speaks with Mr. Cunningham.

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**CHAPTER 16:**

1. How does Aunt Alexandra behave towards Atticus?

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2. Describe what the children see in the town after lunch.

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3. What is Jem’s response when Scout asks what a mixed child is?

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**CHAPTER 17:**

1. Describe what Heck Tate recalls about the night of November 21st.

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2. What impression do you have of Bob Ewell? Why?

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3. According to Mr. Ewell, why was no doctor called that night?

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4. Why is it significant that Bob Ewell writes with his left hand?

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**CHAPTER 18:**

1. What did Mayella ask Tom to do?

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2. How does Atticus offend Mayella? Do you think that he intends to offend her?

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3. What does Atticus implore Mayella to confess?

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4. Do you think that Mayella is telling the truth? Why? Would she have an incentive to lie?

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**CHAPTER 19:**

1. What age is Tom?

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2. Describe what Tom recalls about the night of November 21st.

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3. Why are people shocked when Tom says that he felt sorry for Mayella?

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4. Why is Mr. Deas expelled from the courtroom?

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5. Why does Dill become upset?

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**CHAPTER 20:**

1. Why does Mr. Dolphus Raymond pretend to drink alcohol?

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2. What are Atticus' closing remarks?

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**CHAPTER 21:**

1. What does Calpurnia inform Atticus of?

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2. What is the verdict? Do you think that the jury's decision is the correct one?

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**CHAPTER 22:**

- 1. The Black community of Maycomb deliver food to the Finch household. Why do you think they made this gesture?

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- 2. How has the jury's decision affected Jem's opinion of Maycomb?

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- 3. What does Miss Stephanie tell the children?

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**CHAPTER 23:**

1. Why is Atticus unconcerned about Bob Ewell's threats?

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2. What punishment will Tom receive if his appeal is unsuccessful?

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3. Why does Scout want to invite Walter Cunningham to dinner? Why does Aunt Alexandra forbid it?

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4. According to Jem, why does Boo Radley not leave his house?

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**CHAPTER 24:**

1. Who does Aunt Alexandra invite to tea?

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2. According to the ladies, how has Tom Robinson’s trial affected the behaviour of some of their servants?

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3. What does Aunt Alexandra ask Miss Maudie about Atticus? What does this reveal about Aunt Alexandra’s impressions of Atticus?

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**CHAPTER 25:**

- 1. Why does Jem instruct Scout to refrain from killing the bug? What does this reveal about Jem?

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- 2. Scout thinks that Jem’s reaction shows that Jem is becoming more and more like a girl. Do you think that this is a fair assumption? What does this reveal about Scout’s world?

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- 3. Atticus had to inform Helen Robinson that her husband, Tom, died. How would you have felt doing this if you were in Atticus’ position?

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**CHAPTER 26:**

1. What topic is Miss Gates teaching the class about?

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2. Can you see any similarities between this topic and the society that the characters live in?

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3. Why does Scout become upset by this topic?

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**CHAPTER 27:**

- 1. How is Bob Ewell behaving towards people in this chapter? Why do you think he is behaving in this manner?

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- 2. What happened at the Halloween festivities last year? What does this reveal about the society in the novel?

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- 3. What does Scout wear to the Hallowe'en party?

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**CHAPTER 28:**

1. Describe what happens with Scout at the pageant.

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2. Imagine you are Scout. How would you feel if you were accused of ruining the pageant? How would you react in this situation?

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3. Describe what happens on Jem and Scout's walk home.

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4. Who do you think carries Jem home?

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5. What does Heck Tate inform Atticus of?

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**CHAPTER 29:**

1. Who carried Jem home? Were you surprised by this? Why?

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2. What does this reveal about Boo Radley?

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**CHAPTER 30:**

- 1. Atticus is adamant that Jem should be held accountable for Bob Ewell's death if he is responsible for it. What does this reveal about Atticus' character?

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- 2. Why does Heck not wish to reveal Boo Radley's as Ewell's killer?

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- 3. What decision do you think should be made at this stage?

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**CHAPTER 31:**

- 1. Scout considers life from Boo's perspective. How has Scout matured since the beginning of the novel?

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- 2. Were you satisfied with the ending of the novel? Why?

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### Pair Work Activity

Work with a partner to complete the tasks below

1. Tell the story of "To Kill A Mockingbird" in one sentence

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2. Tell the story of "To Kill A Mockingbird" in three words.

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3. Tell the story of "To Kill A Mockingbird" in one word.

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4. Which activity was the most difficult one to complete? Why?

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### Reflection Questions

1. Who was your favourite character in the novel? Why?

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2. Were there any dull moments in the book? Why did you find these moments dull? Was there anything that the author could have done to make the moment more interesting or exciting?

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3. Do you have anything in common with Scout, Dill or Jem?

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4. Why do you think the author decided to write this book? Who do you think the author intended to read this book? Why?

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5. Can you think of an alternative title for the book?

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## Themes

A theme is an idea that runs through a text. The themes of racism, stereotyping, prejudice and social inequality are present in the novel. Explain each of these themes in your own words. You may wish to use a dictionary to help you. Provide an example of each theme from the text.

Themes	Explanation	Example in text
<b>Racism</b>		
<b>Stereotyping</b>		
<b>Prejudice</b>		
<b>Social Inequality</b>		



Quote Activities

Quote	Who said this?	Rewrite the quote in your own words.	What does this quote reveal about the character?
<p><i>"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view ... Until you climb inside of his skin and walk around in it."</i> - <b>Chapter 3</b></p>			
<p>"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. You rarely win, but sometimes you do." - <b>Chapter 11</b></p>			

Quote	Who said this?	Rewrite the quote in your own words.	What does this quote reveal about the character?
<p><i>"The one thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience."</i> - <b>Chapter 11</b></p>			
<p><i>"People generally see what they look for and hear what they listen for."</i> - <b>Chapter 17</b></p>			
<p><i>"Things are never as bad as they seem."</i> - <b>Chapter 22</b></p>			
<p><i>"I think there's just one kind of folks. Folks."</i> - <b>Chapter 23</b></p>			
<p><i>"Atticus, he was real nice."</i> <i>"Most people are, Scout, when you finally see them."</i> - <b>Chapter 31</b></p>			



A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for students to write their answers or notes.



## Walk in My Shoes Activity

In the novel, Atticus states that “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.”

Choose one of the pairs of shoes in the images below and imagine a day in the life of the person wearing the shoes.

**Image One**



**Image Two**



**Image Three**



**Image Four**



The image I choose is: \_\_\_\_\_

### Planning Questions:

What would your character look like?

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What would your character's occupation be?

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What are your character's hobbies and interests?

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What is your character's dream?

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What are your character's strengths and flaws?

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Is your character optimistic or pessimistic?

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Does your character feel part of society or feel isolated?

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How does your character treat people?

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Who is their hero?

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### A Day in my Character's Life:

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When you have finished the exercise, find classmates who chose the same pair of shoes as you have. How do their stories differ from your story?

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What have you learned by completing this activity?

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