

Standards Focus: Allusions and Terminology

1. **ad astra per aspera:** *per aspera ad astra* means "through adversity to the stars"
2. **add-a-pearl necklace:** a necklace in which girls are given one pearl to start with, then are given more pearls as gifts on special occasions to add to their necklace to make a full string of pearls
3. **Adolf Hitler:** (1889-1945); German dictator and founder and leader of the Nazi party
4. **all men are created equal:** part of the Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson in 1776
5. **Amanuensis Club:** an amanuensis is someone who takes dictation or copies from manuscripts; an Amanuensis Club is a group that keeps records of the history of a town
6. **ambrosia:** a fruit salad mixed with either mayonnaise or whipped cream
7. **Andrew Jackson:** (1767-1845); the 19th President of the United States; nicknamed "Old Hickory" for his tenacity
8. **Appomattox:** the city where Confederate general Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union general Ulysses S. Grant in 1865, bringing the end of the Civil War
9. **asafetida:** a brownish, bitter, foul-smelling material formerly used in medicine
10. **Baptists:** members of the Protestant domination that baptizes through total immersion
11. **Battle of Hastings:** (1066); a fight over the throne of England after King Edward died without leaving an heir; a battle between the Saxons and the Normans ensued; Harold II was killed and William, the Duke of Normandy took the throne
12. **Bellingraths:** referring to Walter and Bessie Bellingrath who opened their 65-acre Mobile, Alabama estate and garden to the public in 1932
13. **Birmingham, Alabama:** the largest city in the state of Alabama, located almost in the center of the state
14. **bob for apples:** a game in which children try to retrieve an apple by using only their mouth; they dip their head into a bucket full of water and apples and try to "catch" and bite into an apple
15. **Bob Taylor:** Robert Love Taylor (1850-1912); won the Governorship of Tennessee after running against his own brother
16. **bootleggers:** people who made and sold alcohol illegally during Prohibition, a period of time in which the consumption of alcohol was illegal
17. **Braxton Bragg:** (1817-1876); a general in the Confederate Army during the Civil War
18. **bread lines:** lines for people who did not have enough money for food during the Great Depression; often churches and other social organizations would give out food to those who waited in line
19. **Brigadier General Joe Wheeler:** (1836-1906); a major general in the Confederate Army of the Civil War
20. **Brown's Mule:** a brand name for a popular chewing tobacco
21. **Buick:** a brand of automobile built in the United States by General Motors
22. **Bullfinch:** reference to American writer Thomas Bullfinch (1796-1867) and *The Age of Fable*, a collection of stories from mythology
23. **burlap bags:** bags made of a dense woven fabric, usually for large bags of potatoes, sugar, or other food items
24. **calomel:** an insecticide once used as medicine for upset stomachs
25. **camellia:** a shrub with rose-shaped flowers
26. **capital offense:** a crime for which the death penalty is or could be given for the conviction
27. **caste system:** traditional, hereditary social systems of stratification; often based upon social status, occupation, or race
28. **castile:** a natural, often homemade soap made of oils and animal fats
29. **Catawba worms:** a cousin of the caterpillar, often used for bait
30. **champertous (connivance):** a champerty is an illegal bargain in which one side assists the other in the lawsuit in order to share in the winnings
31. **charlotte:** a tart-like dessert, usually filled with chocolate or a fruit gelatin
32. **Chevrolet:** a brand of automobile produced by General Motors, founded in 1911
33. **Chief Justice:** the highest judge in the Supreme Court
34. **chifforobe:** (spelled chiffarobe in the novel) a closet-like piece of furniture, may also have drawers
35. **chinaberry tree:** a deciduous tree which is unappealing to bees and butterflies and poisonous to humans
36. **Civil War Reconstruction:** (1865-1877); the period of restoration and reconstruction after the Civil War came to an end; it involved the Union trying to regain order in the southern states to help improve the lives of former slaves
37. **Coca-Cola:** a carbonated beverage introduced in 1886, first produced in Atlanta, Georgia
38. **collards:** a variety of kale with smooth, edible leaves; a popular food of the South
39. **Colored balcony:** a raised seating area at the back of the courtroom; called "Colored" because this was the only area in which African-Americans were allowed to sit to watch a trial
40. **Commentaries by Blackstone:** refers to *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, written by Sir William Blackstone (1783-1780); his writings on the concept of common law (laws developed by custom)
41. **Confederate Army/Soldier:** the Confederate Army fought for the South in the American Civil War; Confederate soldiers fought to retain slavery
42. **cootie:** body louse (lice); often found in hair
43. **corn bread:** a bread, popular in the South, made with corn meal and buttermilk
44. **Cornwall:** a county in southwest England

45. **cotton gin**: a machine for separating cotton from its seeds; revolutionized the cotton industry
46. **Cotton Tom Heflin**: J. Thomas "Cotton Tom" Heflin was an orator and Republican politician. Heflin's political support was drawn chiefly from rural voters and members of the Ku Klux Klan
47. **crackling bread**: cornbread with bits of crackling (fried pork rinds) inside it
48. **Creek Indian Wars**: an uprising in the South in 1813-1814 by the Creek Nation (see number 49)
49. **Creek Nation**: a nation of Native Americans, primarily found in Georgia and Alabama
50. **croker-sack**: a sack made of a coarse weave
51. **CSA pistol**: CSA stands for the Confederate States of America, a group of 11 southern states; the CSA pistol is a handgun used by Confederate soldiers during the Civil War
52. **Cutex Natural**: a brand name of a popular nail polish company, still in existence today
53. **darky**: a derogatory term for an African-American
54. **dewberry tarts**: a small mini-pie made with dewberries, which are similar to raspberries and blackberries
55. **Dewey Decimal System**: a system of classification of non-fiction books invented by Melvil Dewey in 1876; Lee deliberately "confuses" this with a system of teaching introduced by John Dewey (1859-1952), whose philosophy was a "learn by doing" approach, which failed miserably at the time
56. **Dixie**: a song also known as "Dixieland" or "I Wish I Was in Dixie"; a distinctly Southern American folk song
57. **Dixie Howell**: Millard F. "Dixie" Howell (1913-1971); a head football coach at Idaho and Arizona State and a pitcher for the Chicago White Sox in 1955
58. **double-barreled shotgun**: a shotgun with two parallel barrels, allowing two shots to be fired at the same time
59. **Dracula**: one of the first silent horror movies (1922); originally released as *Nosferatu, Eine Symphonie Des Grauens*
60. **due process of law**: the principle of fairness in legal matters, including notice of rights; all legal citizens of the United States are entitled to due process
61. **dunce cap**: a pointed hat which was given as punishment to a student who was slow to learn or lazy in school
62. **ear trumpet**: a horn-shaped device which acted as a hearing aid for the hearing impaired
63. **Edgar Rice Burroughs**: (1875-1950); an American author best known for his creation of the character *Tarzan*
64. **Einstein**: (1879-1955); a German born scientist best known for his theory of relativity and $E=mc^2$
65. **Elmer Davis**: (1890-1950); an American news reporter during World War II
66. **English Channel**: the part of the Atlantic Ocean that separates England from France
67. **English riding boots**: tall boots made specifically for riding on a horse
68. **Ethiopia**: one of the oldest countries in the world; the third-largest country in population in Africa
69. **ex cathedra**: a term meaning "from the throne"
70. **Executive Branch**: one of the three Branches of the U.S. government; includes the President; responsible for the day-to-day operations of the nation
71. **flivver**: a slang term for a Ford Model-T
72. **flying buttress**: a type of archway used in construction; usually on religious buildings
73. **foot-washing Baptist**: a Baptist who believes in the strict moral and religious code that everything that brings pleasure or joy is a sin
74. **fountain pen**: one of the first types of pens; contains a reservoir of ink and a sharp tip
75. **Garden of Gethsemane**: according to the New Testament, a garden where Jesus prayed the night before he was crucified
76. **General Hood**: John Bell Hood (1831-1879); a Confederate general during the Civil War
77. **General Joe Wheeler**: (1836-1906); an American military commander and politician; also known as "Fighting Joe"
78. **Gothic literature**: a literary genre characterized by stories of the undead, vampires, and other various monsters; hit the height of its popularity in the late 1700s and early 1800s
79. **Governor "commutes his sentence"**: the Governor has the power to change a sentence to a less severe one
80. **Greek revival columns**: a popular style of architecture in the South in the 1850s; characterized by large pillars and large porches
81. **Group Dynamics**: a new concept to Americans in the 1930s, after Kurt Lewin, a German psychologist, introduced the idea of group dynamics, or the concept that people tend to group themselves together, influencing each other
82. **Hearts of Love hairdressing**: a popular hair oil used by African-American women
83. **Henry W. Grady**: (1851-1889); a journalist who helped restore the Confederate states after the Civil War ended
84. **Herbert Hoover**: the 31st President of the United States; blamed for society's problems during the Great Depression
85. **holy-roller**: a derogatory term for a member of a Christian group that is perceived to be frantic; characterized by shouting, body movements, speaking in tongues, and trances
86. **Hoover cart**: a broken-down car pulled by a horse; named after President Hoover (see number 84)
87. **Hoovervilles**: a collection of huts and shacks at the edge of a city, housing the homeless during the 1930s; named after President Herbert Hoover (see number 84)
88. **House of Commons**: the elected lower house of the United Kingdom
89. **Hoyt's cologne**: a cologne used before or after shaving; widely reputed to bring good luck to gamblers
90. **icebox**: an early refrigerator; a wood box in which blocks of ice were placed to keep food chilled

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91. **Indian Head pennies:** a one-cent coin produced by the United States Mint from 1859-1909 featuring the head of an American Indian in a traditional headdress
92. **Ivanhoe:** a novel by Sir Walter Scott, written in 1818 and set in 12th Century England
93. **J. Grimes Everett:** a fictional character
94. **J.P. court:** Justice Court or People's Court; a small-claims court in which anyone can make a claim and sue without a lawyer
95. **Jamaica:** an island nation of the Greater Antilles, in the Caribbean Sea
96. **Jew's Harp:** a musical instrument of unknown origin, similar to the harmonica
97. **Jitney Jungle:** a chain of supermarkets started in 1919 in Mississippi
98. **John T. Scopes:** a teacher accused of teaching evolution rather than divine creation
99. **John Wesley:** (1703-1791); a clergyman, evangelist and co-founder of the Methodist church; known for his anti-slavery stance and large number of written works, including powerful sermons
100. **Johnson grass:** a type of grass, often considered a weed; used as food for horses and other livestock
101. **Ku Klux:** refers to the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), a secret group of white Southerners formed in the 19th Century to oppose the emancipation of slaves; known for their harsh ideals and terrorist tactics
102. **kudzu:** a fast-growing Asian vine and weed
103. **Ladies' Law:** a law of the code of Alabama stating that it is a crime to insult, intimidate, or otherwise offend women
104. **Lane Cake:** a traditional layered white cake, popular in the South
105. **lemon drops:** a yellow lemon-flavored sugar candy, often in the shape of a lemon
106. **Let this cup pass from you:** found in Matthew Chapter 26, verse 39, Luke Chapter 22:42, and Mark 14:36; "O my Father, if it is possible, let this cup go from me; but let not my pleasure, but yours be done."
107. **Light of the World:** painting by William Homan Hunt, finished in 1904; shows Christ carrying a lantern
108. **lightning bugs:** also called fireflies; a small flying beetle that glows in the dark
109. **lilac talcum:** a fine powder that smells like lilacs; used by women like a perfume
110. **Lord Melbourne:** William Lamb (1779-1848); the second Lord Melbourne, a radical and Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
111. **Lorenzo Dow:** (1777-1834); an American minister, stout abolitionist, and author
112. **Lydia E. Pinkham bottles:** Lydia E. Pinkham (1819-1883); manufacturer of medicines aimed at women; contained high amounts of alcohol
113. **magnesia:** also called Milk of Magnesia; a liquid laxative known for its milky-white color
114. **majority rule:** control of an organization according to the wishes or votes of the majority of its members
115. **Mardi Gras:** the day before Ash Wednesday; also called "Fat Tuesday"; characterized by parties and parades just before Lent
116. **Joshua S. St. Clair:** origin not found; most likely a fictional character
117. **Mennonites/"they don't have buttons":** Mennonites are a sect of the Christian denomination; pacifists who believe in non-violence; "Old Mennonites" have a strong aversion to modern technology and materialistic things; Jem is referring to their traditional conservative dress
118. **Meridian, Mississippi:** the fifth largest city in Mississippi
119. **Merlin:** a fictional wizard with special magical powers; popularized by Arthurian legends of the *Knights of the Round Table* and the *Sword in the Stone*
120. **Methodists:** a Christian denomination started in England in the early 1700s; believed in "rule and method" taught by the Bible
121. **migrated to the New World:** moved from their homeland in Europe to America, considered the "New World"
122. **mimosa tree:** a tree that folds its leaves at night
123. **Missionary Society:** a group of people committed to doing missionary work for their church
124. **Missionary teas:** a tea party gathering of the Missionary society (see number 123), usually women, to discuss recent events and plan good works
125. **Missouri Compromise:** (1819); an imaginary horizontal line drawn across the middle of the United States to distinguish between free and slave states
126. **Mobile, Alabama:** the third most populous city of Alabama; located in the deep south of Alabama
127. **mockingbird:** a bird that imitates other bird calls
128. **Model-T Ford:** an automobile produced by the Ford Motor Company; produced between 1908-1927
129. **monkey-puzzle tree:** also called a Chile Pine; a stiff, prickly bush
130. **morphine:** a highly addictive substance which was used as a pain killer throughout the Civil War; many addicts continued to use morphine after the war
131. **morphodite:** possibly a shortened version of "hermaphrodite," an individual who has both male and female reproductive organs; this may refer to the fact that the kids make a snowman of Mr. Avery, yet put on Miss Maudie's hat, trying to make the snowman look more feminine
132. **Mount Everest:** the highest mountain on earth; located on the border of Nepal and China
133. **Mr. Jingle:** Alfred Jingle, a character from *The Pickwick Papers* by Charles Dickens; known as someone who falsely claims knowledge or skill
134. **Mrs. Roosevelt:** refers to Eleanor Roosevelt, the first lady of President Roosevelt, known for her humanitarian efforts
135. **Mrunas:** a fictional tribe in Africa
136. **My First Reader:** a series of elementary-level books for early readers

137. **National Recovery Act (NRA):** (1933); part of Roosevelt's New Deal
138. **Nehi Cola:** a type of cola invented in 1924, often in flavors such as orange, peach, and grape
139. **nightcrawler:** type of worm, often used as bait
140. **nine old men:** the members of the Supreme Court of the United States; at this time all of them were white, old men
141. **no money to buy it with:** refers to the effects of the Great Depression when many, many people were out of work and had barely enough money to survive
142. **North and the South:** refers to the Civil War; the North versus the South over, among other issues, slavery
143. **nothing to fear but fear itself:** from the inaugural address of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States; "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself" (1932)
144. **Nova Scotia:** an island province of Canada
145. **Octagon Soap:** a laundry detergent created by the Colgate Company in the early 1900s; also had other uses, as claims were made that Octagon soap could clear bunions, corns, and calluses, and ease poison ivy and rashes
146. **Ol' Blue Light:** nickname for Stonewall Jackson, a colonel in the Civil War, known for standing as stiff as a stone wall
147. **Old Sarum:** a burrough in England, run essentially by one corrupt individual; Old Sarum is also the name of borough in Maycomb county
148. **Old Testament Pestilence:** pestilence is a deadly plague; the Old Testament of the Bible warns of pestilence if the followers do not have faith
149. **Oliver Optic:** (1822-1897); the pen name of William Taylor Adams, an American children's writer
150. **One Man's Family:** a popular radio and then television show of the 1930s
151. **Pensacola:** a city in northern Florida
152. **Philadelphia:** the largest city in Pennsylvania; located in the south-east corner of the state; also called the "City of Brotherly Love"
153. **picture show:** an early term for cinema, motion pictures, or movies
154. **Poor Will, Poor Will, Poor Will:** refers to the sound made by the Common Poorwill, a nocturnal bird
155. **pop-the-whip:** a game in which children hold hands in a line and try to "pop" the last person off the line by yanking and running
156. **pot liquor:** the leftover, vitamin-rich broth from boiling vegetables
157. **poundcake:** rich cake made with a pound of butter and a pound of sugar, among other ingredients
158. **Prime Minister:** the head of the executive branch of government of the United Kingdom
159. **primer:** a basic reading textbook for young schoolchildren
160. **Prohibition:** (1920-1933); the constitutional attempt to ban alcohol in the United States; unfortunately, the ban only increased crime
161. **Quarters:** a building or set of rooms where people live; in the case of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the "Quarters" refers to the area in which the black people live in close proximity
162. **rabies:** a severe disease that affects the nervous system and is transmitted through saliva; ultimately results in death
163. **Radical:** a person who fights for major changes in economic, political, or social agendas
164. **redbug:** a parasitic bug causing severe itching
165. **relief checks:** created by the Federal Emergency Relief Act, relief checks were payments made to those who were working, but were still not getting paid; this was in an effort to rebuild the economy in the U.S.
166. **Republicans:** those of the Republican party; believe supreme power is in those who are elected
167. **Rice Christians:** Christian converts, especially from third-world countries (such as Asia), believed to have joined Christianity to get free food
168. **Robert E. Lee:** (1807-1870); a celebrated Confederate soldier during the Civil War; apparently Bob Ewell is named after him because Lee was considered a hero
169. **Rockefeller:** John D. Rockefeller (1839-1937); an American oil industrialist who became the world's first billionaire
170. **roly-poly:** a common name for a sow bug or pill bug, which when touched, rolls into a ball for protection
171. **Roman carnival:** a festival, usually before lent; entails a parade, circus, street parties, and other celebrations; mostly a Roman Catholic celebration
172. **Rose Aylmer:** a love poem written by Walter Savage Landor (1775-1864); his friend by the same name
173. **Rose Bowl:** the name of a football stadium and the site of the annual Rose Bowl football game; built in 1921
174. **Rosetta Stone:** an ancient tablet found in 1799 in Rosetta (Rashid) in Egypt; said to have been carved in 196BC, inscribed with laws, news, and announcements of the time
175. **sam hill:** slang for "heck"
176. **scrip stamps:** a substitute for legal tender; food stamps are a type of scrip, allowing those who qualify to buy food items paid for by the government
177. **Scripture:** the Bible or other holy book; the biblical writings found in such a book
178. **scuppernongs:** a type of grape-like fruit named after Scuppernong, North Carolina
179. **seceded:** formally withdrew membership; before the Civil War, states took sides over the war and some seceded from the Union of the United States
180. **Second Battle of the Marne:** (1918); considered the last major German offensive of World War I
181. **Seckatary Hawkins:** one of the characters in Robert F. Schulker's children's mystery novels (see number 199)

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182. **Shadrach**: an ancient Babylonian moon god; in the Bible, Shadrach was a friend and ally to Daniel in the Book of Daniel
183. **Sherlock Holmes**: a fictional character from the late 19th and early 20th centuries; the creation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Holmes remains the quintessential detective and one of the most recognizable characters in all of literature
184. **smilax**: a prickly cousin to the lily; the main ingredient of sarsaparilla
185. **Sir Walter Scott**: (1771-1832); a Scottish poet and novelist; best known for his novel *Ivanhoe*
186. **sit-down strikes**: a form of protest in which workers stop working and sit down on the job, effectively not working, and blocking the way for others to take their jobs
187. **snipe hunt**: also known as a "wild goose chase"; a practical joke in which unknowing victims are given an impossible task
188. **snow-on-the-mountain**: a flower related to the poinsettia; a row of these flowers looks like snow because of the flower's distinctive white color
189. **snuff**: a finely-ground tobacco, intended to be snorted through the nose or placed between the teeth and the lip or cheek
190. **stock-market quotations**: refers to specific market data of the Stock Market, or the market for the trading of company stock
191. **stumphole whiskey**: whiskey that was made and sold illegally; producers and buyers would often hide their whiskey in a tree stump to keep from being arrested
192. **Supreme Court**: the highest judicial body in the United States and the leader of the judicial branch; consists of nine justices
193. **Syrians**: people from the country of Syria in the Middle East
194. **taffy**: a type of chewy candy
195. **Tangee Natural**: a popular lipstick that looks orange in the tube, but when applied, changes to best fit the coloring of the wearer's skin tone
196. **Tarzan**: a fictional hero of the jungle; created by Edgar Rice Burroughs in his 1912 novel *Tarzan of the Apes*
197. **the chair**: refers to the electric chair used for executions of convicted criminals; the electric chair is still an option in Alabama
198. **the crash**: refers to the Stock Market Crash of 1929, which led to the Great Depression
199. **The Gray Ghost**: one of a series of children's mystery novels by Robert F. Schulkers, published between 1921 and 1932
200. **The Rover Boys**: a popular children's book series by Edward Stratemeyer, published from 1899 to 1926
201. **Thomas Jefferson**: (1743-1826); the third President of the United States and one of the framers of the U.S. Constitution
202. **tobacco**: dried leaves processed primarily for smoking
203. **Tom Swift series**: a series of young adult adventure novels by Victor Appleton (a pseudonym for several authors) written 1910-1941; Tom Swift was the main character, known for his ingenious inventions
204. **Tootsie Roll**: a type of chewy chocolate candy invented in 1896
205. **truant lady**: a person who monitors the attendance of school children and investigates children's absences after education became compulsory in the late 1800s and early 1900s
206. **Tuscaloosa**: a city in central Alabama; home of the University of Alabama
207. **Uncle Natchell**: a cartoon mascot for a fertilizer product called *Natural Chilean Nitrate of Soda*; advertisements for this product were in comic strip or story form
208. **Union**: the northern side in the Civil War
209. **union suit**: one-piece long underwear
210. **V.J. Elmore's**: a small convenience/grocery store
211. **Victor Appleton**: pseudonym for the authors of the *Tom Swift* series (see number 203)
212. **Victorian privy**: a fancy outhouse or toilet
213. **Victrola**: a very early phonograph invented in 1906; characterized by a very large horn which tunneled the sound, acting like a speaker; the "dog victrola" refers to the RCA ad in which a portrait called *His Master's Voice* features a dog listening into the horn of the phonograph
214. **welfare money**: money given by the government to those in need and out of work
215. **whistled bob-white**: referring to the sound made by a bobwhite; a bird also known as a partridge
216. **White House**: the official residence of the President of the United States, located in Washington, D.C.
217. **White Only**: signs indicating that public and private facilities were only allowed to be used by white people; those who were not white were only allowed to use facilities that said "Colored Only"
218. **William Jennings Bryan**: (1860-1925); a Democratic Secretary of State in the 1912 Woodrow Wilson government, known for his work with women's suffrage, income tax, and prohibition
219. **William Wyatt Bibb**: (1781-1820); Alabama's first governor
220. **Windy Seaton**: a fictional newspaper reporter
221. **Works Progress Administration (WPA)**: an administration created to help provide jobs for those suffering through the Great Depression
222. **Wrigley's Double-Mint**: chewing gum; Wrigley's brand has been in existence since 1914; often characterized by the "Double-Mint Twins"
223. **Yankees**: people living in the Northern states, particularly a soldier fighting for the North

Standards Focus: Idioms and Expressions

Part One

Chapters 1-2

1. **take a broad view:** look at the situation in a larger sense; include all the details looking back
2. **made a pile:** made a lot of money
3. **established a line:** had several children who had their own children, creating several generations of family
4. **high spirits:** a good mood
5. **mind his own business:** pay attention to his own life, not anyone else's concerns
6. **wear us out:** give a spanking to
7. **heard a sound out of us:** heard us make noise
8. **my stars:** an expression of surprise like "Oh, my goodness!"
9. **followed on his heels:** followed directly behind
10. **imagination run away with us:** to let your "imagination run away with you" means to create more and more stories in your mind so that the story becomes bigger
11. **having your tail in a crack:** to be put in a bad or difficult position
12. **starting off on the wrong foot:** getting off to a bad start

Chapters 3-4

1. **half-cocked:** to go off half-cocked means that you start something without being fully prepared
2. **high and mighty:** better than everyone else
3. **I'd fix her:** I'd show her the truth; I'll prove it
4. **deep into the quik:** into the depths
5. **done my time:** completed my required term of stay, like a prisoner who does "time" (his required sentence)
6. **turns 'em loose:** lets the children out of school
7. **finders keepers:** a slang term meaning "whoever finds something gets to keep it as their own"
8. **in a pig's ear:** a saying meaning "no way"; a variation of the more popular "in a pig's eye"
9. **out of good graces:** out of favor with
10. **tan you:** spank you

Chapters 5-6

1. **chameleon lady:** a lady who has many talents and interests; a chameleon changes its colors to adapt to any situation
2. **reaped the benefits:** enjoyed the rewards of
3. **get (her) goat:** to make a person angry or irritated
4. **acid tongue in her head:** someone who speaks harshly or bluntly

5. **grain of sense:** someone who doesn't have a grain of sense is someone who is not very bright or sensible
6. **game of cat-and-mouse:** like a cat chases after a mouse, to try to outmaneuver someone in order to win
7. **raveling a thread:** telling a story
8. **sit a spell:** sit down for a while
9. **keep on tellin' 'em:** keep telling your lies
10. **not a soul:** no one
11. **abandoned (my) post:** stopped doing what I was supposed to be doing, like a soldier who leaves his post (position), leaving everything unguarded
12. **dried up:** stopped talking
13. **the likes of us:** people like us

Chapters 7-8

1. **climb into (his) skin:** try to realize what a person sees from his point of view
2. **trotting in our orbit:** keeping to ourselves
3. **do the honors:** to be the one to do something, usually something important
4. **slipped (his) memory:** forgot all about
5. **walked on eggs:** to act very carefully, so as to not upset anyone
6. **working himself into a bad humor:** putting himself in a bad mood
7. **caused hardly a ripple:** wasn't anything important; did not cause a stir
8. **merely a twitch:** just a minor interest; a twitch is a jerky movement that does not last long
9. **died of fright:** was very scared
10. **my hind foot:** harsh opposition and disbelief, similar to "you're joking!"
11. **jim-dandy job:** a really good job
12. **stove up:** stove is the past tense of the colloquial "stave" meaning to crush or destroy a barrel, wooden box, or other wood fixture; "stove up" means that someone is sore, tired, and achy like they have been crushed or destroyed
13. **got another think coming:** often changed to "got another thing coming"; an expression that means "If that is what you think, you'd better think about that again"

Chapters 9-11

1. **take that back:** an expression meaning "withdraw what you said or did as if it never happened" or "apologize for what you said or did"

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2. **dose of it:** a small experience; a "dose" is a prescribed amount of medication; similar to "getting a dose of your own medicine"
3. **worrying another bone:** thinking about something else; had other things on her mind
4. **running a still:** a still is another word for distillery, a place in which alcohol is made; during the 1920s, Prohibition made the manufacture and consumption of alcohol a crime
5. **hold my head up:** be proud of who I am
6. **drew a bead on him:** from the shooting term for taking aim at a target, to draw a bead on someone is to focus all attention on that person
7. **trying you out:** "testing" you
8. **growing out of your pants:** growing up quickly
9. **bowed to the inevitable:** realized the facts of a situation and no longer fought it
10. **drive him nuts:** upset and/or irritate him
11. **ray of sunshine:** something to be proud of; a very good thing; a ray of sunshine breaking through the clouds makes the day brighter and is said to bring happiness and give hope of a better day
12. **set my teeth permanently on edge:** made me feel annoyed and irritated
13. **as sure as eggs:** a sure thing; bound to happen, just as chickens lay eggs
14. **hold it against me:** hold a grudge towards me
15. **had it coming:** deserved it
16. **lit right into:** spanked or yelled at
17. **I've a good mind:** an expression meaning "I think I will" or "I am going to"
18. **on tenterhooks:** filled with suspense or anxiety; tenter hooks are used when making cloth; tenters are used to stretch the cotton or other fabric so that it doesn't crease or wrinkle; tenter hooks hold the fabric in place so that the fabric doesn't slip
19. **keep her head:** to keep calm
20. **prince of a fellow:** a gentleman
21. **tribal curse:** a family curse or something that has been passed generation to generation
22. **tooth and nail:** to fight violently (with every tooth in your mouth and every nail on your fingers)
23. **make someone's will airtight:** will, in this case, means *behavior*; to make someone's will airtight means to make someone stand up for what they believe in
24. **break camp:** pack up; quit and move on
25. **at a snail's pace:** very, very slowly; moving like a snail travels
26. **'druthers:** a contraction of the phrase "I'd rather"; to have my 'druthers means to have one's way
27. **singing a different tune:** thinking in a different way
28. **look like a picture:** look pretty, like a portrait
29. **never saw the light of day:** never got out (to see the sun)
30. **stood as much guff:** had enough foolish or rude talk
31. **slow fuse:** someone with a slow fuse is not easily upset or angered
32. **lose his head:** to become unreasonable and foolish
33. **when the chips are down:** the time when things are going badly
34. **scared (us) stiff:** scared us a lot; stiff like someone who is paralyzed with fright
35. **snot-nose:** a little brat
36. **for the life of me:** no matter how hard I try

Part Two Chapters 12-13

1. **not cold in her grave:** not dead very long
2. **was crushed:** was very disappointed
3. **to scrape a few barnacles off the ship of state:** barnacles are a type of shellfish that attach themselves to ships that have been in the water for a long time; barnacles must be removed in order for a ship to move properly; the ship of state is the state government; in this case, the government got together to take care of important things that had been ignored for a while
4. **left to its own devices:** left alone to take care of itself
5. **dry spell:** a time when nothing happens
6. **threatened to church her:** threatened to lecture her on how to be a good church member
7. **lining:** a technique in which the lead singer sings one line from a song, followed by the rest of the congregation; this continues for the entire song
8. **putting on airs:** acting like you are better than everyone else
9. **traveled in state:** to travel around like someone who is important
10. **so loaded with shinny it made me tight:** contained so much shinny (alcohol) it made me drunk
11. **born in the objective case:** born a stubborn, opinionated person
12. **like a hand into a glove:** fits very well
13. **in for it:** going to be in trouble
14. **the facts of life:** the way things are done; the realities of life; also refers to a discussion about reproduction

Chapters 14-15

1. **dry me up:** shut me out from knowing
2. **according to her lights:** according to her inner "light", the way she views as the right way to live
3. **feathers rose:** got upset and irritated
4. **jee crawling hova:** similar to "jumping Jehovah" an expression meaning "Oh, my goodness!"
5. **shinnied up:** drunk
6. **things had come to a pretty pass:** things had turned out alright
7. **he had seen the light:** became newly devout or recently saw the right way
8. **old campaigner:** an old politician or veteran of the way things are done
9. **last-ditch effort:** a final attempt.
10. **damn tootin':** an expression meaning "for sure"
11. **giving him hell:** giving him problems

Chapters 16-17

1. **to live down:** to get rid of; to forget about
2. **blind spots:** a prejudice that someone has but is unaware of
3. **bring 'em to their senses:** make them realize the seriousness of the issue
4. **bearing a grudge:** holding resentment towards
5. **cutting his third set of teeth:** growing in a third set of teeth after his adult teeth; this is quite unusual since most people have only their baby teeth, then grow their adult teeth
6. **put a different light on things:** to look at things in a new, different way
7. **stamping grounds:** neighborhood
8. **took advantage of her:** this expression has several meanings; in this case, it means he had sex with her forcefully
9. **made plain:** made very clear
10. **dry as a sermon:** as boring and uneventful as a church sermon
11. **guests of the county:** on public assistance or welfare
12. **had a lean time of it:** found very little to eat
13. **raisin' this holy racket:** "raising a racket" means causing a lot of trouble or making a lot of noise, or both
14. **ruttin' on:** "rutting" means to be sexually aroused
15. **the whole boiling of you:** all of you
16. **false move:** to do or say something wrong or out of place
17. **the time of day:** to not give the "time of day" literally means not to give the time; this has been extended to mean "ignore"
18. **what a card he was:** he was a funny person
19. **gone frog-sticking without a light:** frog-sticking is trying to catch frogs with a small

- pitchfork-like device; to go out without a light would mean you can't see what you are doing in order to catch the frogs; Scout means Atticus doesn't know what he is doing
20. **taking advantage of him:** in this case, Bob feels that Atticus is "taking advantage of him" by tricking him into saying something he doesn't mean
 21. **counting his chickens:** the first half of a proverb: "Don't count your chickens before they've hatched" which means "Don't be too sure that something will happen until it actually does."

Chapters 18-19

1. **got good sense:** knows what one should and shouldn't do; "has a clue"
2. **for all I was worth:** with all my effort
3. **getting along:** doing
4. **everybody for himself:** everyone must take care of themselves
5. **in spite of himself:** even though the results may be bad for him
6. **touched a hair o' my head:** touched me (or hurt me) in any way
7. **the lot of you:** all of you
8. **proof of the pudding:** the way to judge something is by looking at the results
9. **gave them the back of its hand:** did not help them to get out of their situation
10. **protesting too much:** similar to Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew* "doth protest too much," meaning denying everything so adamantly that the reality may be the opposite of what they claim
11. **slap year:** an exact year
12. **looked daggers:** a dagger is a type of knife; to look daggers is to look sharply and intensely at someone
13. **the damage was done:** there was nothing more to do to fix or change the situation
14. **in a fix:** in trouble
15. **thin-hided:** a hide is an animal skin; to have a thin hide (thin skin) means that you are highly sensitive or things get to you easily

Chapters 20-21

1. **run-of-the-mill:** average; common
2. **in droves:** a drove is a group of animals or people moving together; *in droves* means in a large group
3. **skin...alive:** severely punish
4. **giving (him) down the country:** putting him in his place; chastising him

Chapters 22-23

1. **overstepping themselves:** similar to "overstepping their bounds"; to act out of place or do something beyond the acceptable limit
2. **times are too hard:** Atticus is referring to the fact that it is during the Depression; "times are hard" means things are difficult for everyone right now
3. **blue in the face:** angry and upset; emotional
4. **runner:** chicken
5. **take up with:** to discuss with
6. **bat an eye:** to show emotion
7. **wild horses could not bring:** nothing, nobody, could make her do it
8. **shred of credibility:** any believability or trustworthiness he had left
9. **out of his system:** to do something once so that you feel better and can stop thinking about it
10. **pay off a grudge:** get rid of contempt for another person by acting out
11. **have any quarrel:** have no problem with
12. **shadow of a doubt:** any possible doubt at all
13. **do away with:** get rid of
14. **lose their heads:** to get mad about
15. **get a square deal:** to receive a fair trial and reasonable outcome
16. **pay the bill for it:** to suffer the consequences
17. **got many more miles to go:** have a lot to learn
18. **took wearing down:** had to be convinced
19. **on a hunch:** have a feeling about
20. **took a thunderbolt:** took a lot of work
21. **gee minetti:** an expression meaning "Oh, my goodness!" or "Wow!"
22. **put her foot down:** made a strong declaration; won't change her mind
23. **that is that:** that is the end of the discussion
24. **take up:** learn; pick up as a hobby
25. **worry my head:** worry myself
26. **to spite:** to deliberately do something in order to make someone mad or upset
27. **hipped on:** preoccupied with or obsessed about

Chapters 24-25

1. **on the brink:** about to turn into
2. **fighting the good fight:** the missionary ladies' work to help convert people to Christianity
3. **their time came:** they entered their menstrual cycle
4. **still as a mouse:** very, very still and quiet
5. **sober as a judge:** as sober as a judge who must be clear-headed in order to make good decisions
6. **behind you:** support you

7. **fighting a losing battle:** fighting for something that will not or cannot ever happen
8. **wool:** an expression meaning "head"
9. **tears him to pieces:** makes him really upset
10. **be a lady:** keep calm and be polite
11. **dry up:** shut up and go away
12. **out of mind:** forgotten about
13. **down to the line:** the moment of truth, when all has been said and done and a decision must be made
14. **couldn't have cared less:** didn't care at all
15. **breathed a word:** said anything at all

Chapters 26-28

1. **right pretty spell:** nice weather
2. **time was playing tricks:** time was going by very quickly
3. **what's eating you?:** what's bothering you?
4. **after a fashion:** in a way
5. **holed up:** stayed inside
6. **chunked at her:** yelled obscenities; harassed
7. **one more peep:** one more sound
8. **had his fling:** had a good time doing
9. **walked over my grave:** a superstition that when one gets chills, someone "walked over your grave"
10. **cut it out:** stop it
11. **after ten forevers:** after a very long while
12. **out like a light:** fast asleep

Chapters 29-31

1. **wake the dead:** make noises so loud that even the dead in their graves are disturbed
2. **go to bed with the chickens:** go to bed very early
3. **meant business:** was extremely serious about; had a definite goal
4. **say hidy to 'em:** say hello to them
5. **fit to die:** going to, or ready to die
6. **from the bottom of my heart:** with extreme seriousness or truth
7. **put two and two together:** to make sense of something
8. **clear the air:** make everything better
9. **paid a mint:** spent a lot of money
10. **let the dead bury the dead:** let it all be over and done with
11. **honed it down:** sharpened the knife
12. **bided his time:** waited for the right moment
13. **into the limelight:** to be put in front of the public
14. **suit yourself:** do what you want to do