

Chapters Nine-Eleven

Comprehension Check

Directions: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions using complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to use your Note-Taking chart to keep important notes for each chapter and to help you answer the Comprehension Check questions.

Chapter 9

1. Why does Scout get in a fight with Cecil Jacobs?
2. Why does Atticus feel he needs to defend Tom Robinson?
3. What do you think Atticus means when he says, "Just because we were licked a hundred years before we started is no reason for us to not try to win"?
4. Where does the Finch family go every Christmas?
5. What do the children get for Christmas?
6. What problem does Aunt Alexandra have with the way Scout is growing up? How does she attempt to provide female influence?
7. Why does Scout get in a fight with Francis? What is the result?
8. Describe Scout's relationship with Uncle Jack.

Chapter 10

1. Name five things we learn about Atticus in this chapter. How does Scout feel about her father at the beginning of this chapter?
2. According to Miss Maudie, why is it a sin to kill a mockingbird?
3. What does Miss Maudie teach Scout about her father?
4. Who is Tim Johnson? What is wrong with him?
5. Why does Mr. Tate give the rifle to Atticus, rather than shooting the dog himself?
6. Why do Jem and Scout now have a new appreciation for Atticus?

Chapter 11

1. Describe Mrs. Dubose.
2. Why does Jem destroy Mrs. Dubose's flower garden?
3. What does Atticus mean when he says, "This case, Tom Robinson's case, is something that goes to the essence of a man's conscience—Scout, I couldn't go to church and worship God if I didn't try to help that man"?
4. What is Jem's punishment for ruining the flower garden?
5. Why is Mrs. Dubose so sick?
6. What does Atticus tell Jem was the one thing Mrs. Dubose wanted to do before she died?
7. What does Mrs. Dubose give Jem?
8. What is the reason Atticus wanted Jem to meet Mrs. Dubose?