***To Kill a Mockingbird* Part I**

**Text Based Questions**

**Directions**: Answer the following questions in as much detail as possible. Please cite the page number where you found your response.

**Chapter 1**

1. Describe the physical setting of the story.
2. What is the relationship between the narrator (identified later as Scout or Jean Louise) and her brother Jem and their father?
3. Explain how the narrator ended up in Maycomb.
4. What Atticus went to Montgomery to read law, what tradition was broken?
5. What is the town of Maycomb like? Please describe it in as much detail as possible.
6. Where was the Radley place in location to Atticus’ house?
7. Who is Dill and what is his full name?
8. When the “routine” of Jem, Scout, and Dill’s summer becomes tiresome, what idea does Dill have?
9. How had Mr. Radley seen to it that his younger son Arthur (Boo) caused “no further trouble” in Maycomb?
10. After Mr. Radley died, what changes occurred at the Radley place?
11. What dare of Dill’s does Jem finally accept?

**Chapter 2**

1. When Jem takes Scout to school for her first day, what order does he give her?
2. What two things does Miss Caroline tell Scout that Atticus is not to do any more?
3. Why does Scout say that the class did not like the story that Miss Caroline read to them?
4. How does Scout feel about being able to read now that she knows that she is not supposed to read anymore?
5. Why does Scout get in trouble for writing a letter to Dill?
6. Why does Scout have to stick up for Walter Cunningham?
7. What reason does Scout give Miss Caroline for why Walter wouldn’t take her money?
8. When Scout tries to spare Walter Cunningham any further humiliation, what does Miss Caroline do to her?

**Chapter 3**

1. Why does Scout beat Walter Cunningham up on the way to lunch?
2. At the Fitch’s for lunch, what reason does Walter give Atticus for not being able to pass the first grade?
3. What does Walter eat on all of his food at lunch? Why does he do this?
4. Why does Calpurnia request Scout’s presence in the kitchen?
5. How does Scout describe Burris Ewell’s physical appearance?
6. How does Little Charles Little describe Burris’ personality?
7. Name two favors that Maycomb County cut the Ewells.
8. After Scout’s first day of school, what is her assessment and what is her plan?
9. After Scout begs Atticus not to make her return to school, what advice does he give her for getting along with others?

**Chapter 4**

1. What does Scout think of current fashions in education?
2. What do her opinions reveal about her character?
3. Explain why Scout goes back to the Radley Place one afternoon.
4. What is the neighborhood’s opinion of Mrs. Dubose?
5. What does Jem say about the “Indian-heads” they find in the knothole of tree?
6. What is a “Hot Steam” according to Jem?
7. How does Jem get back at Scout for telling Dill not to believe a word he says?
8. What new “game” do Jem, Scout and Dill play?
9. After Atticus catches the children with the scissors, what is Jem’s reaction? What is Scout’s and why?
10. What happened the day Scout rolled into the Radley front yard on the tire?

**Chapter 5**

1. Explain why Scout becomes annoyed with Dill.
2. Describe Miss Maudie.
3. What does Miss Maudie say is the difference between a Baptist and a “foot-washing Baptist”?
4. What does Miss Maudie tell Scout about “some kind of men”?
5. What is Jem and Dill’s plan to contact Boo Radley?
6. What type of lies does Dill tell Jem and Scout?
7. What order does Atticus give the children regarding Boo?

**Chapter 6**

1. In what kind of risky behavior do Scout, Jem, and Dill engage?
2. What reasons do Jem and Dill give for waiting until the last night of summer to engage in this behavior?
3. Why do Dill, Jem, and Scout run from the Radley place?
4. Who is blamed for trespassing on the Radley Place? What does this blame reveal about the setting of the novel?
5. How does Dill explain Jem’s missing pants?
6. Why does Jem say that he had to go after his missing pants?
7. How does Scout feel about Jem going after his pants?

**Chapter 7**

1. Summarize Scout’s assessment of second grade.
2. What does Jem finally tell Scout about his pants that he retrieved?
3. What do Jem and Scout decide to do about the objects that they find in the tree?
4. What do Jem and Scout realize about the carved soap figures they find in the knothole?
5. Does Jem still fear the gifts in the tree? Give reasons for your answer.
6. When Jem and Scout find the knothole filled with cement, what explanation does Nathan Radley give?
7. What does Atticus tell Jem about the tree?

**Chapter 8**

1. What was going on outside that made Scout think that the world was ending?
2. Describe how Jem constructs his “snowman.” What compliment does Atticus play Jem?
3. What does Atticus criticize Jem for?
4. Why does Atticus wake the children in the middle of the night?
5. What is Scout wearing? How does Atticus explain the presence of what Scout is wearing?
6. Describe Scout’s reaction to the news she receives.
7. What is Miss Maudie’s reaction to the loss of her house?

**Chapter 9**

1. Why does Scout forget what Atticus told her about fighting?
2. Why does Atticus feel he should defend Tom Robinson? Why is it significant that he is defending a black man?
3. What does Atticus tell Scout to do when she hears “ugly talk” at school?
4. What reason does Atticus give Scout for why he is defending Tom Robinson even though they will lose the case?
5. When Atticus tells Scout, “this time…we’re fighting our friends,” what do you think he means? If you fight people, how can they still be your friends?
6. Scout and Jem have “mixed feelings” about Christmas. What are these feelings and why do they feel this way?
7. What comparison does Scout use to describe her relationship with her Aunt Alexandra?
8. Explain Scout’s reasoning regarding her “cussing fluently.”
9. Uncle Jack Finch tells Scout that she is “growing out of her pants.” What does this mean and why might he say it?
10. Talking to Francis gave Scout what kind of sensation?
11. Describe Aunt Alexandra and explain her negative feelings about Scout. How does Aunt Alexandra perpetuate (promote and continue) stereotypes?
12. Why does Scout fight Francis?
13. What does Scout make her Uncle Jack promise not to tell Attiucs the truth about?
14. What does Atticus tell Jack he hopes Jem and Scout will do instead of listening to the town?

**Chapter 10**

1. What does Scout say is wrong with her father?
2. When Scout says that “Atticus was feeble” (weak), do you think that this is her view as she tells the story or her view when she was younger?
3. Atticus tells the children they’re not to kill mockingbirds because doing so is a sin. How does Miss Maudie explain Atticus’ reasoning to Scout?
4. What was Scout’s target when she was learning to use her new gun?
5. Who informed Atticus about Mr. Harry Johnson’s mad dog, old Tim Johnson?
6. Who informed Miss Rachel and Miss Stephanie Crawford about the mad dog?
7. Why is it significant that it’s February?
8. What does the shooting of Tim Johnson reveal about Heck Tate and Atticus?
9. What is Miss Maudie’s reasoning for why Atticus doesn’t shoot anymore?
10. How does Atticus feel about how well he can shoot?
11. Who was the first to address Atticus by his old nickname?
12. Explain the meaning of Miss Maudie’s pronouncement that “Peoplein their right minds never take pride in their talents.” Do you agree or not? Why?
13. Jem and Scout have different views about telling people at school how well Atticus can shoot. Explain this difference. Which view is closer to your own?

**Chapter 11**

1. How does Mrs. Dubose treat Jem and Scout?
2. How does Atticus advise Jem to react to Mrs. Dubose’s taunts?
3. What is Mrs. Dubose like as a person? What are her personality traits, actions, thought/feelings, and other people’s points of view on her?
4. What makes Scout think Atticus was the bravest man who ever lived?
5. What does Jem do to get back at Mrs. Dubose for insulting the Finch family name?
6. Why does Scout think that Jem did what he did?
7. What request does Mrs. Dubose make of Jem?
8. How does Scout describe Mrs. Dubose?
9. What does Mrs. Dubose gain fro this “punishment” to Jem? What does Jem gain?
10. What does Atticus teach Scout and Jem about understanding antagonizing and belittling language and people like Mrs. Dubose?
11. When Mrs. Dubose dies what does she leave Jem and why?
12. Why does Atticus say that Mrs. Dubose is the bravest person he ever knew?
13. Chapters 10 and 11 are the last two chapters in the first part of the book. Explain why Harper Lee chose to end the first part here.