

Unit – To Kill a Mockingbird

Essential Questions:

Why is racism dangerous?

What is courage? How do you know if people possess it?

What affect does the setting have on a story?

What influences a person’s character?

Literary terms:

colloquialism – a local or regional dialect expression

type of narration – first person via the protagonist (Jean Louise “Scout” Finch), from her adult perspective reflecting on significant events in her childhood.

***The novel itself is a *frame narrative*, where an adult Scout starts the story, comes back from time to time during the plot, and ends the story.**

static and dynamic characters – **Static** characters remain the same throughout a literary work; **dynamic** characters change.

flat and round characters – **Flat** characters are marked by a lack of complexity – they are caricatures (defined by a single idea or quality). **Round** characters have a high level of complexity and depth associated with real people and their ambiguities.

review: plot structure (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution), conflict, characterization, foreshadowing, and theme

Evaluation: homework reading and responses, reading quizzes, test, and research assignment

The novel:

One of the most well-known and best-loved American novels, decades of American students have read To Kill a Mockingbird. As seen through the eyes of its protagonist – Scout, whose full name is Jean Louise Finch— a family and a town endures the racial and socio-economic battles that marked that place and time: Maycomb, Alabama during the Great Depression.

Notes: setting of the novel

vs.

American South at publication date

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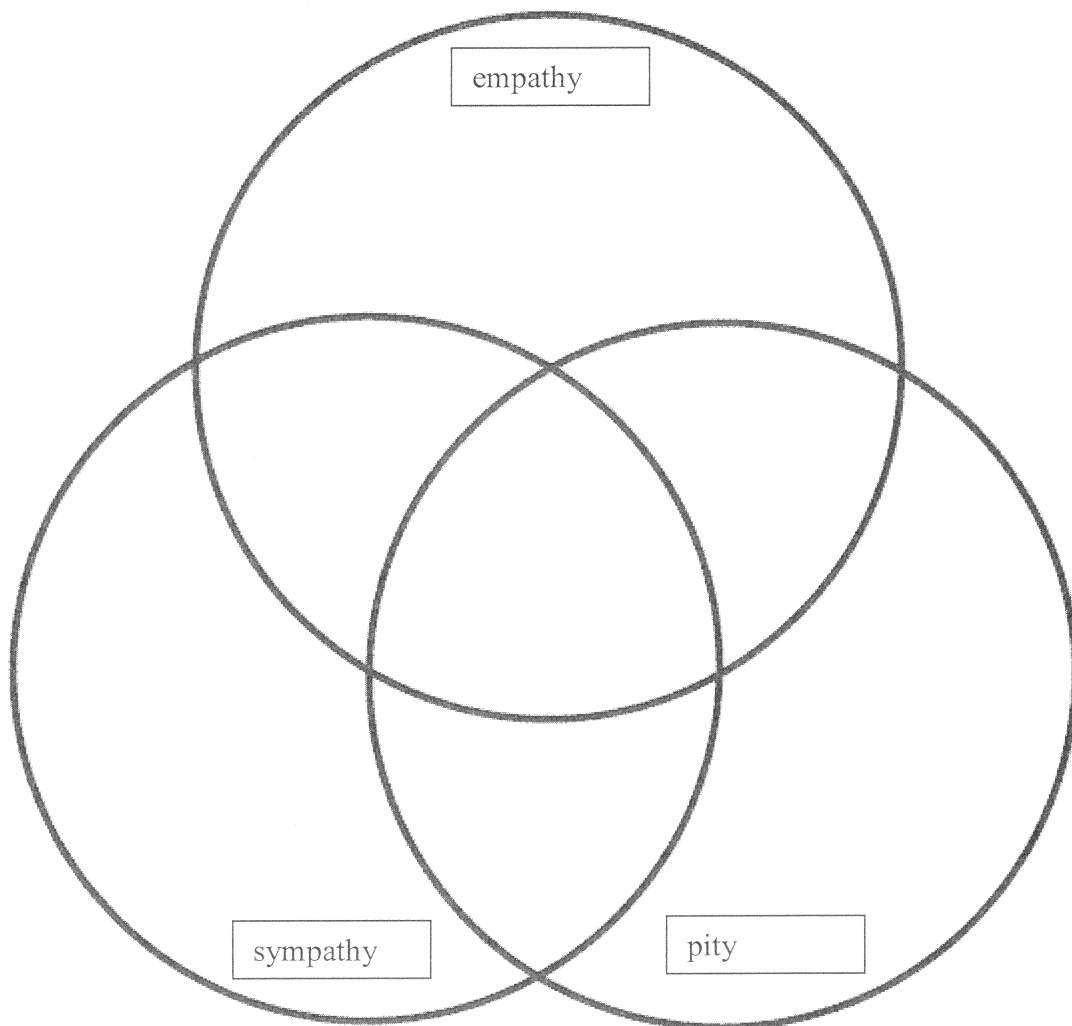
Part I. Directions: Define the following words individually, using a dictionary. Write a full definition (more than just the first one given). After, fill in the Venn diagram to explore the similarities and differences.

Set 1

pity -

sympathy -

empathy -

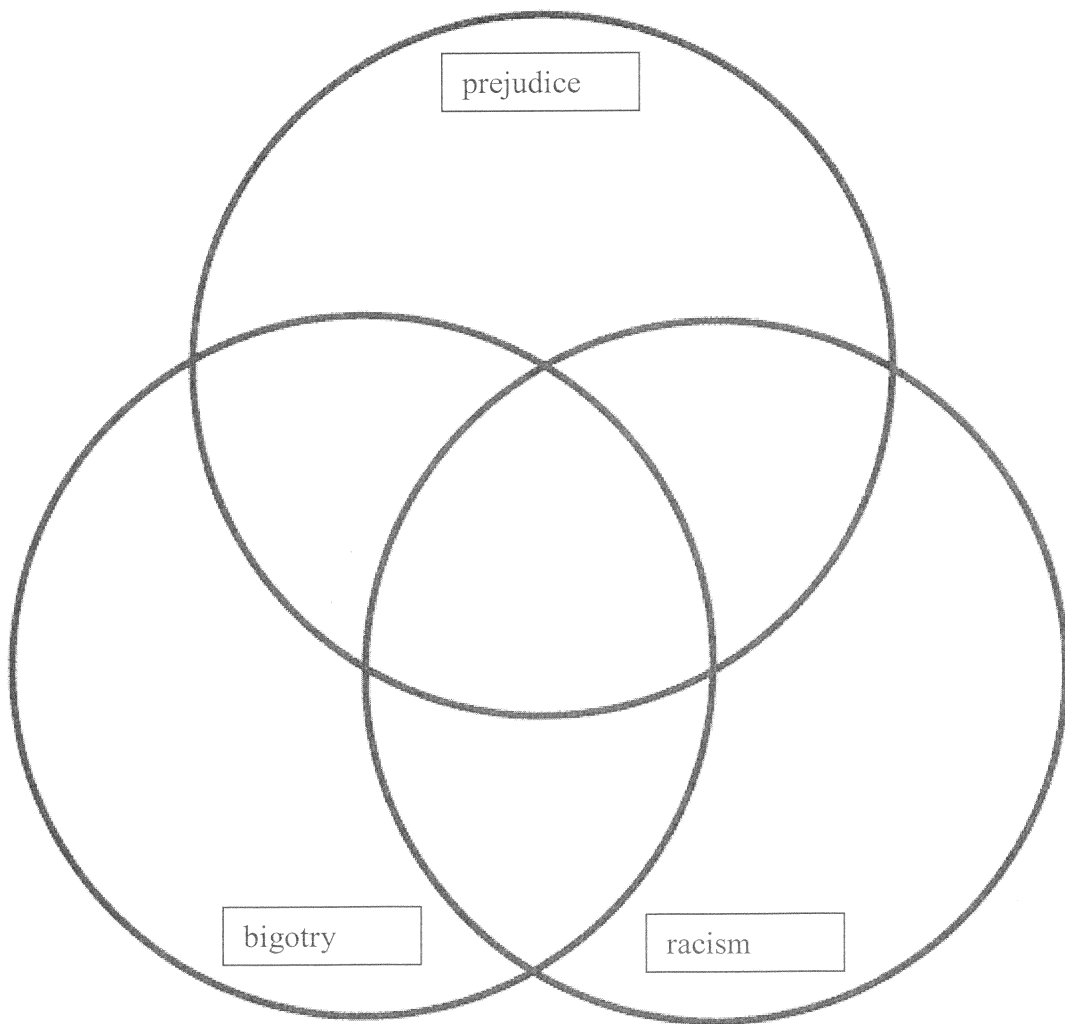


Set 2

prejudice -

bigotry -

racism -



Chapter 1

1. Chapter 1 introduces us to the town of Maycomb, its appearance, its inhabitants, and the particular attitudes of many of its people. Find a phrase or sentence that illustrates the particulars of that setting. Quote at least a portion of the sentence or paragraph and give the page number, MLA style.

A. Notes for novel's setting (Maycomb, Alabama); write some words and phrases the narrator (Scout) uses to describe it:

B. Atticus Finch (*What did you learn about him? What do you know because of this information?*)

C. Boo Radley (*What did you learn about him? Does the information reliable? Why or why not?*)

Chapter 2

2. The Great Depression (*What did you learn about its specific effects on Maycomb residents?*)

Chapter 3

3. Both Calpurnia and Atticus scold Scout for her criticism of Walter Cunningham. What are their reasons?

4. The focus of the novel is Scout's growth under her father's tutelage: she starts as a six-year-old, and the narrative ends when she is 9. Both Calpurnia and Atticus guide Scout in this growth. What can you say about Atticus and Calpurnia? What do they want for Scout?

5. These three characters are all from poor families, and yet act quite differently: Burris Ewell, Walter Cunningham, Chuck Little. Describe their differences below.

	appearance	attitude	one significant quote
Burris			
Walter			
Chuck			

6. Atticus tells Scout, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb in his skin and walk around in it" (30). What is Atticus trying to teach his daughter?

Overall: describe, chronologically, how Boo may be trying to connect with the children and/or instances where he is aware of them

Notes for Chapter 10; To Kill a Mockingbird

1. We have encountered the first reference to the title: Atticus cautions Jem not to kill a mockingbird. Why? Write the quote (complete with page number and MLA style).

2. Later, Miss Maudie explains why it's a sin. What reason does she give (write a quote complete with page number and MLA style)? After the quote, interpret her statement(s).

3. What does Atticus do that impresses his children? Why isn't he proud of this skill?

*Specific notes about this question:

4. Write one big idea and three supporting details about this chapter. (Use the back, if needed.)

Chapter 17

1. Atticus spends a great deal of time discussing Mayella Ewell's injuries.

a. Describe her injuries (be specific)

b. What is Atticus's strategy in this testimony? What is his point?

2. The Ewells are known as "trash" by the residents of Maycomb. While they are poor, what do they do – how do they live – that causes others to look down at them?

Chapter 18

3. What is important about Tom Robinson's appearance?

a. Give the specific details of his injury and appearance.

b. What does this **prove** in the trial (even though a verdict has not been reached)?

Chapter 19

4. According to Tom's testimony, what actually happened on November 21? Be specific.

5. What "mistake" did Tom make in saying that he felt "sorry" for Mayella?

Character List for To Kill a Mockingbird

Jean Louise “Scout” Finch -

Atticus Finch -

Jeremy Atticus “Jem” Finch -

Arthur “Boo” Radley -

Charles Baker “Dill” Harris - (include his relation to Miss Rachel Haverford)

Miss Maudie Atkinson -

Calpurnia -

Mr. Walter Cunningham -

Walter Cunningham -

Miss Stephanie Crawford –

Uncle Jack Finch -

Aunt Alexandra -

Tom Robinson -

Heck Tate –

Bob Ewell -

Mayella Ewell -

Mr. Underwood -

Mr. Dolphus Raymond -

Judge Taylor –

Mrs. Dubose –

;) Tim Johnson -

Name: _____

Ms. Kamrass; English 10

Directions: After reading each assigned homework section, write an appropriate response in which you include specifics as well as explanation. These responses need to be reflective of the particular section that is assigned for homework. Also, if there is more than one chapter assigned, you need to include some content from each chapter (somewhere on the sheet, not necessarily for each response). *Finally, since your responses are individual, they should not look like another classmate's.*

Assignment description (identify the chapters): _____

Question (Write a question that you have after reading the chapter(s). It can be specific and based on your confusion, or it can be philosophical, etc.) :

Comment (This can be based on any aspect of the chapter(s), or to the entirety):

Quotation (include quotation marks and page number/s, MLA style):

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