***To Kill a Mockingbird* Chapter Questions**

*Directions: To receive full points, you must write using complete sentences.*

**Chapter 11**

1. When Mrs. Henry Lafayette Dubose pushes Jem too far, he loses his mind a bit, destroying her flowers and breaking Scout’s baton. What was Jem’s punishment? Did it fit his crime?

2. Atticus is not upset that Mrs. Dubose calls him foul names behind his back. To Scout, he explains, “...it’s never an insult to be called what somebody thinks is a bad name. It just shows you how poor that person is, it doesn’t hurt you.” Explain his meaning. Do you agree or disagree with him? Why? Finally, give a real-world example from your life to illustrate your point.

3. Why does Mrs. Dubose keep the children a few minutes longer each day? In what ways does this make Mrs. Dubose heroic?

4. Other than living on the same street, what do Boo Radley, Atticus, and Mrs. Dubose all have in common? What larger message is supported by examination of these three characters?

**Chapter 12**

1. Why do Jem and Scout go to church with Calpurnia? Where is Atticus?

2. Does Lula speak for the majority opinion in the congregation? Why does the author include her in the church scene?

3. What is the crime that’s been charged against Tom Robinson?

4. During the church service, we find out that Calpurnia is one of the few African-American residents of Maycomb who can read. The children get to know Cal better during this Sunday and realize lots of things about her that they didn’t know, including that she’s older than they realized. Look closely at this passage:

“But, Cal,” Jem protested, “you don’t look even near as old as Atticus.”

“Colored folks don’t show their ages so fast,” she said.

“Maybe because they can’t read...”

What’s humorous or interesting about this short passage?

**Chapter 13**

1. Scout and Aunt Alexandra communicate very poorly with each other. Is the fault more with one than the other, or are they equally at fault? Explain your answer.

2. What’s the reason the children are given as to why Aunt Alexandra has come to stay with them? What do you think is the real reason?

3. Atticus says to Scout, “Your aunt’s doing me a favor as well as you all. I can’t stay here all day with you, and the summer’s going to be a hot one.” There’s a double-meaning to this line. Explain.

**Chapter 14**

1. How does Aunt Alexandra feel about Calpurnia? Explain why this is “in character” for Aunt Alexandra?

2. Comment on Atticus’ explanation of rape. Why does Atticus explain the crime in this way?

3. What does Jem do that, to Scout, symbolizes the end of his childhood?

4. Dill tries to explain to Scout why he did not want to stay with his mother and new stepfather. State his reasons briefly in your own words.

5. Twice now, Scout has considered running away. Dill did, in fact, run away from home. Why, according to Dill, hasn’t Boo Radley ever run away from his terrible home?