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

*Directions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences.*

**Chapter 21**

1. Jem is confident that Atticus has won the case, but Atticus is not as certain. Write the line of text that shows Atticus knows he’ll lose, but that he’s not ready to take away Jem’s hope.

2. Why is a long-deliberating jury a good sign?

3. How does Scout “know” the verdict before she hears it?

4. Why do the people in the balcony gallery stand when Atticus leaves the courtroom?

**Chapter 22**

1. Aunt Alexandra tries to scold Atticus for allowing the children to attend the trial, but Atticus says, “This is their home, sister...We’ve made it this way for them, they might as well learn to cope with it.” Explain Atticus’ message.

2. Atticus lost the case, yet the black community has reacted with generosity, filling his kitchen with food. Why did people drop off so much food?

3. How did Judge Taylor try to help Tom?

4. What “baby step” was made with this case?

**Chapter 23**

1. How does Atticus react to Bob Ewell’s threat against him?

2. What is “circumstantial evidence” and what does it have to do with Tom’s case?

3. In thinking about the injustices faced by Tom and other members of the African-American community, Atticus says, “Don’t fool yourselves – it’s all adding up and one of these days we’re going to pay the bill for it. I hope it’s not in you children’s time.” What is his concern/prediction about the future?

4. Aunt Alexandra accepts that the Cunninghams may be good people, but she still thinks “they’re not our kind of folks.” Later, she calls them “trash.” This book was first published in 1960 and set in the 1930s, yet these class distinctions are still with us today. Why do you think, as Scout says so clearly toward the end of the chapter, folks just don’t get along with each other? Why do we allow this separation of race and class to still exist?

5. At the end of this chapter, Jem forms a new theory about why Boo Radley rarely leaves his house. What is this? How likely is it to be true?

**Chapter 24**

1. Do you think the missionary ladies are sincere in worrying about the “Mrunas,” a tribe in Africa? Give reasons for your answer. Be sure to include any ironic elements you notice in this part of the chapter.

2. Scout feels she prefers men to women. Why? Do you agree with her reasons?

3. Explain briefly what happened to Tom. What is Atticus’ explanation for Tom’s actions? Do you agree with Atticus?

4. Toward the end of this chapter, we see Aunt Alexandra in a new light. How so? Explain how Miss Maudie becomes a sudden supporter of Alexandra.

**Chapter 25**

1. Explain how Scout’s treatment of the roly-poly bug mirrors the way the town of Maycomb treated Tom Robinson.

2. Everyone in town talks about what happened to Tom, most saying it’s “typical.” What do they mean?

3. Write the line from the end of the chapter in which Mr. Underwood’s editorial in the Maycomb Tribune echoes Atticus’ earlier advice to Jem and Scout when they were given their guns. Then, explain how this connects to the title of the novel. Who is the mockingbird?

4. At the end of the book, the children find out that Mr. Ewell was thrilled to hear about what happened to Tom and reportedly “said it made one down and about two more to go.” Who, do you suppose, are the “two more” that Mr. Ewell is targeting? Do you believe his threat?