

Name: _____

To Kill a Mockingbird: Chapters 21–23

1. What does the verdict in Tom Robinson's trial reveal about the jury?
 - a. They are racially prejudiced, but their contempt for the Ewells' "kind of folks" is more personal and therefore influential in their decision.
 - b. They allowed their personal opinions about Tom Robinson and their knowledge of his criminal past to cloud their judgment.
 - c. Their conclusion was logical based upon the facts as presented



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3. Copy a quote from the text that shows Jem's response to the verdict.
Cite the page number. Then explain what his response is and how the quote shows it.

Quote:

Name: _____

To Kill a Mockingbird: Chapters 21–23

4. Which two characters identify the fact that “only children weep” when racial injustice occurs?
- a. Atticus and Calpurnia
 - b. Calpurnia and Miss Maudie
 - c. Dolphus Raymond and Atticus
 - d. Dill and Dolphus Raymond
5. Circle the literary device used in the following secondhand quote from Miss Rachel in chapter 22. Then identify what it reveals about the way people in Maycomb view Atticus's decision to defend Tom Robinson.

“... if a man like Atticus Finch wants to butt his head against a stone wall it's his head.”



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to falsely believe the jury would side with him.

6. What is the “baby-step” that Miss Maudie refers to in the following quote?

“...I thought, Atticus Finch won't win, he can't win, but he's the only man in these parts who can keep a jury out so long in a case like that. And I thought to myself, well, we're making a step—it's just a baby-step, but it's a step.”

- a. the surprising implication that the jury was close to declaring Tom Robinson innocent, nearly overturning Maycomb's traditions
- b. the hopeful realization that the town was more interested in judging Atticus's legal skills than the morality of the trial
- c. a promising hint that Maycomb is ready to abandon its prejudices and consistently treat people fairly under the law
- d. a small but meaningful sign that the town is moving toward racial equality because the jury at least considered Atticus's arguments

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7. Bob Ewell threatens Atticus at the end of chapter 22, which is expanded upon at the start of chapter 23. Choose two characters, and cite one quote for each that shows their reactions to these threats. Then explain how the reactions relate to and further develop each person's overall characterization in the novel.

Character	Quote	Explanation



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8. Atticus makes the following statement when speaking with Jem about the jury in chapter 23.

"Those are twelve reasonable men in everyday life, Tom's jury, but you saw something come between them and reason."

What is it that metaphorically "[came] between" the jury and reason?

- a. racism
- b. poverty
- c. fear
- d. sexism



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Use with the book:
To Kill a Mockingbird
by Harper Lee

To Kill a Mockingbird: Chapters 21–23

9. Which statement best summarizes Atticus's opinion of juries?
- a. Juries rarely treat defendants fairly because they are uneducated.
 - b. Juries are the most important aspect of the justice system because they decide defendants' fates and sentences.
 - c. Juries are only as fair as the people who sit on them, which makes them necessarily unfair to some defendants.
 - d. Juries would be fairer and more effective if women were allowed to serve on them.
10. Why does Aunt Alexandra forbid Scout from inviting Walter Cunningham to the



- a. He believes Boo realizes the danger he poses and prefers isolation for the benefit of the community.
- b. He suspects Boo may choose to stay inside to avoid the townspeople's cruelty and judgment.
- c. He thinks Boo is ashamed of his family's actions and is hiding from embarrassment.
- d. He realizes Boo's cruel family is forcing him to stay inside.

ANSWER KEY

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