

Name: _____

To Kill a Mockingbird Vocabulary

Chapters 21–23

1. Which scenario best shows the meaning of the word **adamant**?
- a. Jabari was reluctant to try asparagus, but when he did, he liked it.
 - b. Blair completely changes her hairstyle at least twice a week.
 - c. Azariah prefers chocolate cake, but she'll also eat other kinds.
 - d. Colten insists he didn't break the vase even after being punished for it.



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3. What does the word **circumstantial** help you understand about the evidence?

"... he did have deep misgivings when the state asked for and the jury gave a death penalty on purely circumstantial evidence."

- a. It was based on reliable eyewitness accounts.
 - b. It was only suggestive and did not provide definitive proof.
 - c. It was weak and intentionally misleading.
 - d. It was proof that no reasonable person could deny.
4. Which word is an antonym for the word **ruefully**?
- a. regretfully
 - b. annoyingly
 - c. cheerfully
 - d. expertly

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5. Which statement best explains the meaning of **cynical** in this context?

The lawyer became cynical after years of working in a broken system.

- a. He no longer trusted that the justice system worked fairly.
- b. He was proud of his career and hopeful for systemic change.
- c. He was confused about how the justice system functioned.
- d. He believed the justice system always protected innocent people.

6. What does the use of the word **fatalistic** suggest about Jem's noises?



- c. They come from a place of boredom and disinterest in what Miss Maudie has to say.
- d. They come from a place of confusion because he doesn't understand what Miss Maudie is trying to tell him.

7. Which word is a synonym for the word **furtive**?

- a. angry
- b. secretive
- c. thoughtful
- d. illegal

8. What is the meaning of **verdict** in this sentence?

News anchors eagerly awaited information on the trial's verdict.

- a. the punishment a guilty defendant receives
- b. the most important evidence in a trial
- c. the final decision reached by a jury
- d. the private opinion of a key witness

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9. What does the word **conviction** reveal about the situation?

The conviction shocked the community, as many believed Harlee was innocent.



- a. It reveals Harlee admitted guilt voluntarily.
- b. It reveals Harlee was officially found guilty of a crime.
- c. It reveals Harlee's trial is taking an unreasonably long time.
- d. It reveals the charges against Harlee were false.



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"An inevitable verdict, maybe, but usually it takes 'em just a few minutes."

- a. unpreventable
 - b. unjustifiable
 - c. unpopular
 - d. unacceptable
12. Which scenario best shows the meaning of the word **relenting**?
- a. A boy gets a perfect score on his math test after spending all weekend studying.
 - b. It takes a crow several tries to figure out a scientist's puzzle and unlock the treat hidden within.
 - c. After listening to her children beg for months, a mother finally decides to adopt a dog.
 - d. A student refuses to let a classmate copy her work and insists the other student do the work himself.

ANSWER KEY

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

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