

PRE-AP ENGLISH II: SUMMER READING

Summer reading is expected of all 2018-2019 Pre-AP English II students. It is essential that students complete the summer reading guide, as **there will be a paper and exam** upon students' return to school. Failing the summer reading paper and exam may result in removal from the course!

The summer reading that is required:

***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee**

Students are encouraged to purchase their own copy of the book (any edition), if possible. Copies of this book can be found in most bookstores and libraries, as well as online at www.amazon.com, www.BarnesandNoble.com, etc.

Read the book. Many students believe that watching a movie version of a book is the same as reading the book. This is not correct. The movie version of *To Kill a Mockingbird* differs in significant ways from the novel. All assignments on this novel are based on close readings from the book.

As you read the novel, complete the following annotation and guided reading question assignments. Be prepared to turn in your answers to the guided reading questions within the first week of school. The annotation assignment will be used for class discussions analyzing the novel.

If there are any questions, please contact Mrs. Marks at lauren.marks@sfisd.org or Mrs. Hoff at amy.hoff@sfisd.org.

ASSIGNMENT

Guided Reading Questions

Carefully provide complete, thorough, and original – meaning your own thoughts and writing and not copied from the Web or from a classmate – answers for each of the following questions. It may be handwritten on notebook paper.

1. Describe the following characters and explain why they are significant to the novel:

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| - Jean Louise “Scout” Finch | - Aunt Alexandria | - Charles Baker “Dill” Harris |
| - Calpurnia | - Arthur “Boo” Radley | - Mr. Dolphus Raymund |
| - Atticus Finch | - Tom Robinson | - Miss Maudie Atkinson |
| - Jem Finch | - Bob Ewell | |
| - Mayella Ewell | - Mrs. Dubose | |

2. In Chapter 1, the narrator notes, "But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people: Maycomb County had recently been told that it had nothing to fear but fear itself." This alludes to another famous quote.
 - a. Who in history said, "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself"?
 - b. What was the historical situation in which it was originally said?
 - c. Given what you have learned about this quotation, estimate the year it is in the novel.
3. In Chapter 10, Miss Maudie says, "Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird." This quotation explains an important theme of this novel. Write this theme in your own words. Do not refer to mockingbirds because the statement above is just a metaphor for humans. (Remember, a theme should be a full thought about a subject. A subject may be hatred, but a theme may be that hatred can destroy a person's humanity from within.)
4. In Chapter 10, after Atticus shoots a mad dog, Miss Maudie explains why Atticus, the best shot in the county, had not shot a gun in many years: "I guess he decided he wouldn't shoot till he had to...." What do you think Miss Maudie's remark tells the reader about Atticus? Explain your answer.
5. In Chapter 10, after Atticus shoots the mad dog, Jem says, "Atticus is a gentleman, just like me." What does this quotation tell the reader about Jem's attitude toward his father? Explain your answer.
6. In Chapter 11, Atticus gives his idea of courage: "It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win, but sometimes you do." Do you agree with this definition of courage? Explain your answer.
7. Closely read Chapter 15 and briefly summarize what happens here.
8. Summarize Miss Gates' lecture on democracy in the classroom and compare that to her remark to Miss Crawford outside the courtroom (Chapter 26). Why is this significant?
9. Carefully read Chapter 30. Briefly summarize the argument between Atticus and Sheriff Tate. You may need to read it more than once to understand it.
10. At one point in Chapter 30, Atticus "moved with the same slowness that night in front of the jail, when I thought it took him forever to fold his newspaper and toss it into his chair." Later in this same chapter, Atticus "got up and walked across the porch into the shadows" and "his youthful step had returned." Thoroughly explain this change in Atticus.
11. Carefully read Chapter 31. The narrator notes, "Atticus was right. One time he said you never really know a man until you stand in his shoes and walk around in them." What event(s) on that page and on the previous one or two pages leads the narrator to that conclusion?
12. In Chapter 31, Scout lists the things Boo has given her and Jem. List those items and explain Scout's thoughts about Boo's gifts. Why does she reflect on these gifts after what she has learned about Boo?