

Chapters One through Six

1. Who is telling the story and from what point of view? (Remember that there are many different sides to every argument and each “side” has its own point of view.)
2. Why do you think the author chose Scout instead of Jem to tell this story?
3. What is the setting? Describe in detail.
4. What kind of person is Atticus Finch?
5. Where is Scout’s mother?
6. Who is Dill?
7. What position does Calpurnia hold in the Finch home?
8. List three lessons that Scout tells us about in these chapters, things she has learned or things she knows she must do.
9. Compare the Cunninghams with the Ewells.
10. What does the schoolteacher tell Jean to stop doing?
11. What living creature jumps off a student and scares the teacher?
12. What advice does Atticus give the children about skin?
13. What is the first gift the children find in the tree?
14. What is the gift in the wedding ring box?
15. What specific game takes on larger proportions as the summer progresses, much to Atticus’ dismay?
16. In Chapter Four, the Radley place becomes more mysterious. Discuss the attitude of Scout and Jem toward Boo Radley.
17. What does Atticus think of Boo?
18. What kind of person is Miss Maudie? Is she typical of the white people in Maycomb?
19. Contrast Miss Maudie’s function with that of Miss Stephanie?

BIGGER QUESTIONS:

1. Scout is telling this story like a sort of mystery, with some things hinted at and important details left until later. Name two things that she hints about and make predictions about what will happen with those two things later.
2. Describe the relationship between Scout and Atticus.
3. Somewhere in chapters four-six, the children are frightened by the firing of a gun after their attempt to peek into the Radley house. Explain what you think this is about.