

Chapters 10-11

To Kill a Mockingbird—Writing Prompts

Chapters 10-11 Write about the meaning of courage. Give examples of courageous

behavior. What kinds (or examples) of courage seem to be most admirable? Why is it hard to be courageous? Who is the bravest person you know? Why is this person brave?		

To Kill a Mockingbird—Writing Prompt

Chapters 10-11: How do you act, speak or dress differently according to which group you are with? (For example, you probably don't talk to your parents, grandparents, boss, or teachers the same way you talk to your friends.) Why do you makes these adjustments? Do you think it's hypocritical or false to make such changes? Why or why not? Which person is the <i>real</i> you?			
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Chapter 10

1.	At the beginning of the chapter Scout compares Atticus to other fathers. What is different
	about Atticus, and how do Scout and Jem seem to feel about their father. Give examples
	for each child.

2. The novel's title, *To Kill a Mockingbird* is referenced in this chapter. Tell me what Atticus and Miss Maudie say about this.

3. How might the killing of a mockingbird be a metaphor for one of the novels major themes? For example, what might mockingbirds symbolize?

4. Which of the novels characters thus far might be considered similar to mockingbirds? Explain your reasoning.

5. Who is Chuck Tate?

6.	What dramatic incident causes people to lock their doors and stay inside?
7.	Heck says it is a "one-shot job" and asks Atticus to do it. What does this tell us about Atticus?
8.	Some people suggest that the mad dog is a symbol for the evil that exists in Maycomb, specifically the racist attitudes that many of the townspeople have. What evidence can you find in this chapter or previous ones that support this idea?
9.	What was Atticus's nickname?
10.	Why according to Miss Maudie, does Atticus only shoot in an emergency? What does this show or tell you about Atticus as a person?
11.	Miss Maudie says, "People in their right minds never take pride in their talents." Explain what she means. Do you think this is true?
12.	Why does Jem no longer care if Atticus has any special talents?

13. Scout is excited about the thought of telling everyone in school that Atticus is the "deadest shot in Maycomb County." However, Jem tells her not to say anything about it. What are his reasons? How does this exchange further demonstrate that Jem is growing up?

Chapter 11

14. Scout tells the reader about Mrs. Dubose. How does she describe the woman? How do Scout and Jem feel about her?

15. As Scout and Jem are returning home from town one day, Jem does something to the shock and astonishment of Scout. What does he do, and why?

- 16. What does Atticus mean when he says, "The only thing that doesn't abide by majority rule is a person's conscience?"
- 17. What is Jem's punishment for destroying the flowers? How does he feel about this punishment?
- 18. What do we learn about Mrs. Dubose's health?

19.	When Scout tells Atticus what Mrs. Dubose has been calling him, what is his response? What lesson does he teach Scout during this conversation?
20.	What is the significance of the alarm clock by Mrs. Dubose's bed? What does Scout suddenly notice about it one day?
21.	One evening, Atticus is summoned to Mrs. Dubose's house. What does this reveal to Jem and Scout when he returns?
22.	According to Atticus, Mrs. Dubose had made one goal for herself before she died. What was it? How did Jem unknowingly help her reach her goal? How does this explain the significance of the alarm clock?
23.	What is real courage according to Atticus?
	a. How does his definition relate to Mrs. Dubose?b. How does this definition relate to Atticus?
24.	Why does Atticus want the kids to know what real courage looks like?

Find five quotes from chapters 10-11 that you feel are significant whether it be because they support the theme or because they jumped out at you. Explain why you chose this quote.

Chapter Page#	Quote	Significance/Explanation