**Reading Guide Questions TKAM Chapters 20-25**

On a separate piece of paper, write out the answers to the questions below. You do not have to write in complete sentences, but your answers must be complete and you must include page numbers.

Chapter 20

1. Scout says that “Mr. Dolphus Raymond was an evil man”. Is she right? No, all he does it help.
2. In most states of the USA people who drink alcohol in public places are required to hide their bottle in a paper bag. Why does Dolphus Raymond hide Coca-Cola in a bag? He wants to make it look like he’s drinking. This is because people wouldn’t understand his relationship, he avoids answering questions by pretending he is someone he’s not.
3. What, according to Atticus, is the thing that Mayella has done wrong? She makes a pass at Tom.
4. Explain, in your own words, Atticus's views on people's being equal. All people are equal in the courtroom but not all people are created equal.

Chapter 21

1. What does Jem expect the verdict to be? Does Atticus think the same? He thinks Tom will win. No.
2. What is unusual about how long it takes the jury to reach a verdict? Is the verdict predictable or not? They took so long to come to a decision. Yes.
3. As Scout waits for the verdict, she thinks of earlier events. What are these and how do they remind us of the novel's central themes? The fire at Miss Maudie’s house. Powerlessness.

Chapter 22

1. Although Atticus did not want his children in court, he defends Jem's right to know what has happened. Explain, in your own words, Atticus's reasons for this. (Look at the speech beginning, “This is their home, sister”. Hear it from source not gossip, know the kind of world they live in.
2. Miss Maudie tells Jem that “things are never as bad as they seem”. What reasons does she give for this view? Atticus is Tom’s lawyer. Bias judge.
3. Why does Dill say that he will be a clown when he grows up? Do you think he would keep this ambition for long? He wants to make people laugh. Says it is the only thing he is good at. No because he will grow up and mature.
4. This story is set in the 1930s but was published in 1960. Have attitudes to racism remained the same (in the USA and the UK) or have there been any changes (for the better or worse) since then, in your view? More equality in the 60’s. Civil Rights movement.
5. Why does Bob Ewell feel so angry with Atticus? Do you think his threat is a real one, and how might he try to “get” Atticus? He defended a black man, he knows Atticus knew he did something wrong, made a fool of him. Yes, he is very angry with Atticus, goes after Scout and Jem.

Chapter 23

1. What do you think of Atticus's reaction to Bob Ewell's challenge? Should he have ignored Bob, retaliated or done something else? Atticus acted as he usually does/ no violence.He should be cautious.
2. What is “circumstantial evidence”? What has it got to do with Tom's conviction? Indirect evidence, changes what Bob said. No evidence of Mayella being beat up.
3. What does Atticus tell Scout about why the jury took so long to convict Tom? Because he is not actually guilty, if he was guilty it would have been short.
4. Why does Aunt Alexandra accept that the Cunninghams may be good but are not “our kind of folks”? Do you think that people should mix only with others of the same social class? Are class-divisions good or bad for societies? They are not in the same social class. No, all people should be treated equally.Bad.
5. At the end of this chapter, Jem forms a new theory about why Boo Radley has never left his house in years. What is this? How likely is it to be true, in your opinion? He wants to stay away from people and their craziness.

Chapter 24

1. Do you think the missionary ladies are sincere in worrying about the “Mrunas” (a tribe in Africa)? Give reasons for your answer. No, they pretend like they care about people million miles away but not the people in their town.
2. Compare the reactions of Miss Maudie and the other ladies when Scout says she is wearing her “britches” under her dress. They laugh. Scout only feels comfortable in dresses with pants underneath.
3. What is your opinion of the Maycomb ladies, as depicted in this chapter? Theyre rude and don’t think. Obnoxious, snobby.
4. Explain briefly how Tom was killed. What is Atticus's explanation for Tom's attempted escape. Do you think agree with Atticus? He was shot 17 times. He gave up and was tired. Yes.
5. How, in this chapter, do we see Aunt Alexandra in a new light? How does Miss Maudie support her? She is much more caring and compassionate, was a role model.

Chapter 25

1. How does Maycomb react to the news of Tom's death? They thought it was typical.
2. Comment on the idea that Tom's death was “typical”? Shows how racist there society is.
3. Explain the contrast Scout draws between the court where Tom was tried and “the secret courts of men's hearts”. In what way are hearts like courts? Send people to court to find out truth but they are not responsible for the verdict/ no fair situation with racist people.
4. Why did Jem not want Scout to tell Atticus about Bob Ewell's comment? Was this a wise thing to ask her to do? **He didn’t want Atticus to be upset and not be scared. No he should have been aware of a threat.**