***To Kill a Mockingbird* Study Guide**

**Ms. Smith’s English I Honors/Gifted**

Directions: Select 7 of the 12 short response questions to answer. Answer in 3-5 sentences for each.

1. What effect does Scout as the narrator remembering her childhood experiences do to affect the point of view presented in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*?
2. How is the topic of justice and judgement treated in the novel? Do you think Maycomb is ultimately more just as a society at the close of the novel than when it began? Why or why not?
3. Argue whether or not you believe Atticus is a good parent to Scout and Jem. Provide examples from the novel and reasons to support your answer.
4. What are the most important lessons Scout learns? Explain at least three with significant details for each.
5. Why does Boo Radley alienate himself from society? Do you agree with his decision to stay shut indoors from the world?
6. Atticus says, “Mockingbirds don’t do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. That’s why it’s a sin to kill a mockingbird.” What does the mockingbird represent in Maycomb County? In our society?
7. How do the Jim Crow Laws affect your understanding of the novel?
8. What are some commonly held beliefs and attitudes of the South represented in the novel? Have these beliefs and attitudes changed since then?
9. How are names of people used in the novel? Select three characters in the story and explain how their names affect your interpretation of the story.
10. In what ways do the characters of the story change their views? Select one child character and one adult character to discuss.
11. Argue who is most to blame in Tom Robinson’s trial between Bob or Mayella Ewell. Provide evidence to support your answer.
12. What commentary is Harper Lee making regarding race in the novel?

**Short Essay Prompt (3 paragraphs)**

**Directions: Be able to answer the following prompt.**

Evaluate Atticus Finch’s closing statement in Tom Robinson’s trial. Be sure to include the appeals of an argument in your answer. You may use any notes or annotations to help you construct your answer.