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and musical composition. It was established by Hungarian-American publisher Joseph Pulitzer and is administered by Columbia University in New York City. According to the administrators of the Pulitzer Prize the correct pronunciation of the name should sound like the verb *pull*, as in "Pull it, sir." Prizes are awarded yearly in twenty-one categories. In twenty of these, each winner receives a certificate and a US\$10,000 cash award. The winner in the public service category of the journalism competition is awarded a gold medal, which always goes to a newspaper, although an individual may be named in the citation. 0 ratings% found this document useful (0 votes) 139 views This document contains a quiz with 30 multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank questions about the first 4 chapters of *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. The questions test comprehension of d... Al-enhanced title and description Save Save ToKillAMockingbirdbyHarperLeeChaptersQuizwithAnswe... 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Just the idea of a black man being with a white woman enrages most of the locals. Even before the trial, a mob appears in front of the jail to kill Tim Robinson. When Scout and Jem visit Calpurnia's black church, though they are treated well, they still feel prejudice against them. The book does a great job of showing how deeply racism is embedded in society with the newspaper making overtly racist comments about the trial and Aunt Alexandra telling the children not to encourage the black people. An interesting comparison made in the book is when Scout observes that the townspeople found the Nazi's treatment of Jewish people horrible but continue to persecute the African Americans in their society. ClassMaycomb has a strict social structure hidden behind concepts of family backgrounds. Miss Caroline Fisher, the new first-grade teacher, does not understand that Walter Cunningham's family is poor and therefore looks down upon them because their family is considered trash. The Ewell family is considered lower class as well and this kind of family-based social status is prevalent in the town. Dolphus Raymond, who married a black woman automatically lost his social status and preferred to be thought of as a drunk. Through Scout and Jem's coming-of-age storyline the book explores the idea of judging people based on how they are rather than what their family background is. SexismThe book is set in Maycomb, Alabama, in the 1930s, a time when especially in the south, women had very specific gender roles. Earlier on in the book Scout hates being called a girl because she believes that it implies sticking with tradition and not being able to do what you want. Most of the women in the town adhere to typical female stereotypes of the time which Scout observes and comments negatively on. Aunt Alexandra serves as an example of the typical woman of the time, taking care of the household, children, and social status. It is only when Scout sees the example of Miss Maudie, who is feminine yet free, that she understands the power of femininity. By the end of the book, Scout starts to see a way of being both feminine and expressive. Our literature experts are always ready to help you. Take a chance! Get Expert HelpRace, social class, and sex are not the only ways equality and inequality are a theme in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The entire society is affected by issues of equality including based on how long people have lived in the town as well as how much money a family has. Atticus Finch is considered such a virtuous literary figure because he rejects the inequality around him and treats people based on their character and does things just because he believes them to be right. InnocenceInnocence is one of the important themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird* considering the second half of the book is about Tim Robinson's trial and his guilty conviction despite his innocence. A more nuanced way to explain why innocence is an important theme in the book is through the concept of the mockingbird. Atticus tells Scout and Jem that he would prefer that they use their new air guns to shoot at tin cans and not at mockingbirds because it is a sin to shoot at mockingbirds. Miss Maudie later explains to the children that mockingbirds do nothing but mind their own business and sing beautiful songs. They are pure and innocent which is why shooting at them is a sin. Tim Robinson is a mockingbird in the story, falsely accused of committing a heinous crime, he still maintains his composure at trial and tells his side of the story. He is still convicted by the jury, who essentially kill the mockingbird. Boo Radley is another human mockingbird, he is vilified by the town because of his eccentric behavior and the children find him frightening, but all he does is mind his own business and eventually saves the children from Bob Ewell's attack. When the sheriff makes up a story to protect Boo Radley, Scout understands that to put him on trial would be to kill another mockingbird. MoralityIdeas of morality are at the center of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Atticus Finch is a highly moral person who has a strict moral code while giving others the benefit of the doubt. He believes that people have both good and bad in them. He instills these views in his children and Scout, but living in Maycomb the two children have to face moral community standards. Maycomb is a racist, prejudiced, city, and understanding that the values of their father are different and better than the townspeople's create a lot of tension for Scout and Jem. The children get into trouble because members of the community mock them due to their father defending a black man. When Tim Robinson is convicted of a crime he clearly did not commit, Jim has an especially hard time understanding the results. It is difficult to have a higher moral standard than the people around you, but the only way to make the world better is to pull people up, not go down to their level. JusticeThough Atticus is a lawyer and a highly moral man he understands the difference between law and justice. He agrees that Tim Robinson's conviction was not just but upholds the law and believes that they will win an appeal. This is contrasted with the townspeople's idea of justice, to them, it is enough that a white man accused a black man of rape and they devote into a mob to dispense their own kind of justice. Atticus believes that true social change will only happen through the legal system but also understands that there are situations where the law must be bent so that justice can prevail. He explains to Scout that Bob Ewell is allowed to hunt even when it's not hunting season because the townspeople know that his children will starve if he isn't allowed to. At the end of the book, he refuses the sheriff's fabricated story, believing that he can make a case of self-defense. When he realizes the story is for Boo Radley's sake, someone who is innocent and shy and already vilified in the community, he agrees to go along with it because he cannot be sure how a jury would judge him. BraveryThough many characters exhibit bravery in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus Finch is truly a brave man. He is brave enough to take on the case of Tim Robinson, knowing not only that he will probably lose the case but also that the townspeople will hate him and his family for taking on the case. Standing up for what you think is right is one of the bravest things to do according to him. Atticus also goes to the jail alone and is willing to face down a mob by himself. The children later find out that Atticus is an excellent shot with a gun and in his youth displayed classic forms of bravery. Atticus believes that finding non-violent solutions to problems is a high form of bravery and explains this idea to Jem and Scout when the townspeople start harassing them. He also explains to the children that Mrs. Dubose is brave for trying to fight her addictions even if it makes her unpleasant at times. At the beginning of the book, the children play a game of getting as close to Boo Radley's house as possible because they are afraid of him. As the story progresses and Jim gets older his bravery increases as well as shown by him getting closer and closer to the house. Later on, though, the children realize that their fear was unwarranted and their bravery in touching the house was nothing compared to their standing up for what they believe is right. Hire one of our professionals and enjoy your high grades. Get Expert HelpThe townspeople of Maycomb are fearful of their traditions changing. Anything that challenges the status quo is scary, especially a case of a black man accused of rape by a white person not being convicted. The townspeople are scared of their children interacting with people that they consider lower class. They do not trust people new to the town. They are afraid to bring equality into their society. The children go from being afraid of Boo Radley's house to finally understanding the man and overcoming their fear, while also understanding that doing the right thing, especially when afraid, is the purest form of bravery. EducationScout is excited to go to school but from her very first day is disappointed with the experience. Her school and her teachers have a fixed idea of how children should be taught and she is punished for knowing more than she should because she was educated at home. As the story progresses Scout realizes that the life lessons and experiences that Atticus has given her are a much better education than what she receives at school. Despite knowing this, Atticus still insists that she goes to school because he understands the value of passing through the formal system, but continues to help. He constantly tries to think about things from other people's viewpoints so that he can understand them better and sway them to his side, both as a lawyer and as a member of the community. He helps the children understand Mrs. Dubose by insisting that they go over to read to her and get to know her for a month. Finally, at the end of the book, Scout escorts Boo Radley back to his house and when she sees the view from his porch she gains an understanding of his perspective. Summing UpWhat is the theme of *To Kill a Mockingbird*? There probably isn't just one answer to this question, but the major themes include inequality, bravery, morality, and perspectives. The book is multi-layered and complicated, yet insightful even now, almost 100 years after it was written. If you need any help with an essay about *To Kill a Mockingbird* themes, or need someone to do my essay for me, the experts at StudyP are here for you. Whether you need someone to write my assignment, do my PowerPoint, or provide Excel assignment help, we've got you covered. Contact us today and we'll take care of the rest. edit descriptions of this character OpenAI recently agreed to acquire 10 AI hardware start-up co-founded by Jony Ive, the design genius behind the iMac, iPod, iPhone, iPad, and Apple Watch. The deal, valued at \$6.3 billion, reflected a mutual agreement between Ive and OpenAI CEO Sam Altman to move beyond conventional devices like smartphones and develop new hardware designed for artificial general intelligence. Ive, who has voiced misgivings about the constant connectivity enabled by devices he helped create, framed the project as an opportunity to rethink how we interact with technology. Can AI Really Duplicate Human Intellectual Abilities? © Open University Quiz: Artificial Intelligence 4 Strategies for Investing in AI Stocks Since 1925 American grade-school students (and a few from outside the U.S.) have participated in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, which starts today. Here are a few of the hard-to-spell "final words" that have resulted in victory over the years. Esquimaluose 1962 the bee came down to Nettie Crawford and Michael Day, who, according to the Associated Press's account, "engaged in more than an hour of head-and-head wrestling with words that grew stranger by the round." The contest was declared a draw when neither could correctly spell esquimaluose—which is nonetheless considered the year's "winning word." Esquimaluose is the opposite of squamulose, which means "being or having a thallus made up of small leafy lobes." EczemaWords used in the medical profession are notorious for stumping spellers, so it's no surprise that they appear frequently in the list of winning words. In fact, eczema maintains the distinction of being the only word to have resulted in victory on two separate occasions—in 1936 for Jean Trowbridge and in 1965 for Michael Kerpan, Jr. Among the other medical terms on the list are two other skin ailments: psoriasis (1982) and xanthosis (1995)—as well as odontalgia (1986), which most people know better as toothache. ViviseptureOf the many uncommon words featured in the bee, some of the most fascinating are the ones that prompt the exclamation, "I didn't know there was a word for that!" One of the best examples from the list of winning words is vivisepture (1996), which means "the act or practice of burying alive"—a term that's certainly far less familiar than the morbid concept it describes. Popular ProCon Debate Topics Britannica's content is among the most trusted in the world. Subscribe to Britannica Premium and unlock our entire database of trusted content today. Subscribe Now! ProCon Award-winning ProCon promotes critical thinking, education, and informed citizenship by presenting the pro and con arguments to controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan, freely accessible way. Britannica Money Discover all you need to know about retirement, investing, and household finance, without the jargon or agenda. Get reliable guidance, insight, and easy-to-understand explanations, written, edited, and verified to Britannica's exacting standards. Advocacy for Animals Presenting Advocacy for Animals, a blog focused primarily on animal rights, wildlife conservation, environmental health and safety, and the legal and cultural issues related to these topics. This blog is a source of information and a call to action. It is meant to be a provocation and a stimulus to thought regarding humanity's relationship with nonhuman animals. Alain Elkann Interviews Alain has been writing a weekly interview column for the Italian newspaper La Stampa since 1989. His interviews celebrate some of the best known and successful personalities of the present day. alias Jean Louis Finch edit descriptions of this character Starred Review. Lee's beloved American classics makes its belated debut on audio (after briefly being available in the 1990s for the blind and libraries through Books on Tape) with the kind of classy packaging that may spoil listeners for all other audiobooks. The two CD slipcases housing the 11 discs not only feature art mirroring Mary Spack read with a slight Southern lilt and quiet authority. Told entirely from the perspective of young Scout Finch, but it was actually an unblied Kim Stanley who read a mere six passages and left an indelible impression. Competing with Stanley's memory, Spack forges her own path to a victorious reading. Spack reads with a slight Southern lilt and quiet authority. Told entirely from the perspective of young Scout Finch, there's no need for Spack to create individual voices for various characters but she still invests them all with emotion. Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning 1960 novel, which quietly stands as one of the most powerful statements of the Civil Rights movement, has been superbly brought to audio. Available as a Perennial paperback. (Aug.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Spack, with her liting Southern accent, perfectly captures the voice of Scout, the young girl whose life is thrown into turmoil when her father, the upright and ethically upright lawyer Atticus Finch, takes on the defense of a black man accused of raping a white woman. Their sleepy Alabama town may never be the same and Spack's exceptional pacing propels this Pulitzer Prize-winner a staple of many high school reading lists to its inexorable conclusion. The 1962 film starring Gregory Peck (who won an Academy Award for his portrayal of Atticus Finch), was named to the National Film Registry by the Library of Congress in 1995.(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. Shoot all the bluejays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird." A lawyer's advice to his children as he defends the real mockingbird of Harper Lee's classic novel—a black man charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with rich humor and unswerving honesty the irrationality of adult attitudes toward race and class the Deep South of the 1930s. The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence, and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina and quiet heroism of one man's struggle for justice—but the weight of history will only tolerate so much. One of the best-loved classics of all time, *To Kill a Mockingbird* has earned many distinctions since its original publication in 1960. It has won the Pulitzer Prize, been translated into more than forty languages, sold more than forty million copies worldwide, and been made into an enormously popular movie. It was also named the best novel of the twentieth century by librarians across the country (Library Journal). HarperCollins is proud to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the book's publication with this special hardcover edition. Harper Lee was born in 1926 in Monroeville, Alabama. She is the author of the acclaimed *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Go Set a Watchman*, which became a phenomenal #1 New York Times bestseller when it was published in July 2015. Ms. Lee received the Pulitzer Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and numerous other literary awards and honors. She died on February 19, 2016. Rose Prichard's masterful narration of Lee's classic novel, originally produced for Books on Tape in 1991, has been repackaged by Audio Partners for the consumer market. Prichard's skill and talents are evident; all the characters sound true and absolutely real. Listeners hear Scout's developing wisdom and maturity as the story progresses. Prichard achieves the monumental task of creating—and maintaining—authentic voices for a diverse group of characters while infusing the story with emotional resonance. This stunning production captures the listener and doesn't let go. M.A.M. An AUDIOFILE Earphones Award winner (c)AudioFile, Portland, Maine edit descriptions of this character Submit a "Write my essay for me" request on our site before your deadline and enjoy the benefits of expert assistance and guidance. We have you covered in every aspect. Connect with an essay helper on our site to get fast and reliable help for simple to complex academic tasks. 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The Jim Crow era is a period ranging from the late 1880s to the mid-1960s when local and state laws, mostly in Southern states of the US, enforced racial segregation in all public facilities and stringent voting requirements that disenfranchised some poor white people and a majority of the black population. The state built separate schools for black and whites, separate compartments in public transport vehicles, black people were not allowed into hotels and banks for white people, and the residential area for blacks was separated from that of whites. These Southern states rationalized this discriminatory policy with the phrase "separate but equal", but in actuality, the public facilities allotted to the blacks were significantly inferior to those for the whites. In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the Jim Crow laws are still in effect in the setting, and an indication of this is in Jem and Scout's cluelessness about the lives of black people when they follow Calpurnia to the black people's church and in the decidedly secluded part of town meant for blacks only. The Great Depression was a period of severe economic depression that began in the United States and spread across the world from the year 1929 to 1939. In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the narrator remarks that everyone is poor but in relation to others, the farmers are the most impoverished by the economic depression. The Cunningham family, who are farmers, are described as being so poor that they cannot afford to feed well or to pay for legal services. This description is realistic because farmers were badly hit by the depression as crop prices fell by about 60 percent during the period. To Kill a Mockingbird makes allusions to the totalitarian rule and antisemitic policies of Adolf Hitler in Germany. Hitler became the ruler of Germany in 1933 and ruled until his suicide in 1945. Hitler's rule in Germany is used as a backdrop to show the extent of hypocrisy, bigotry, and multiple moral standards some Southern white people have when it comes to race and racism. For instance, we see the character Miss Maudie passionately condemning Hitler's antisemitic actions of the Adolf Hitler dictatorship but passionately supporting injustice and discrimination against blacks in her own community. The writing and publication of the 1930s Southern United States of the US, the 1950s and 1960s had the South becoming an epicenter of civil disobedience, nonviolent resistance, protests, and riots. There was the landmark 1954 Supreme Court ruling in the case of Brown v. Board of Education Topeka in which the court declared segregation unconstitutional. The 1955 Montgomery bus boycott, the emergence of the charismatic black freedom fighter Martin Luther King Jr., and his leadership of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in the late 1950s and other civil unrests campaigning for the abolishment of racial discrimination. All these events provided an apt historical context for the reception of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The Cunninghams in *To Kill a Mockingbird* are poor because they are small-town farmers who were adversely affected by the economic hardships of the Great Depression. To Kill a Mockingbird is famous for being a well-told story that exposes the evils of discrimination and the cruelty in a masterful narration from a child's perspective. To Kill a Mockingbird's 1962 film adaptation with the same title also helped make the novel more famous. Atticus was referring to Mr Cunningham's racial prejudice. Atticus believed that Mr Cunningham's racist actions were

Maudie the day after the trial, "It's like bein' a caterpillar wrapped in a cocoon ... I always thought Maycomb folks were the best folks in the world, least that's what they seemed like".[50] This leads him to struggle with understanding the separations of race and class. Just as the novel is an illustration of the changes Jem faces, it is also an exploration of the realities Scout must face as an atypical girl on the verge of womanhood. As one scholar writes, "To Kill a Mockingbird" can be read as a feminist Bildungsroman, for Scout comes from her childhood experiences with a clear sense of her place in her community and an awareness of her potential power as the woman she will one day be".[51] Despite the novel's immense popularity upon publication, it has not received the close critical attention paid to other modern American classics. Don Noble, the editor of a book of essays about the novel, estimates that the ratio of sales to analytical essays may be a million to one. Christopher Metress writes that the book is "an icon whose emotive staying power remains strangely powerful because it also remains unexamined".[52] Noble suggests it does not receive academic attention because of its consistent status as a best-seller ("If that many people like it, it can't be any good,") and that general readers seem to feel they do not require analytical interpretation.[53] Harper Lee had remained famously detached from interpreting the novel since the mid-1960s. However, she gave some insight into her themes when, in a rare letter to the editor, she wrote in response to the passionate reaction her book caused: Surely it is plain to the simplest intelligence that To Kill a Mockingbird spells out in words of seldom more than two syllables a code of honor and conduct, Christian in its ethic, that is the heritage of all Southerners.[54] In the 33 years since its publication, [To Kill a Mockingbird] has never been the focus of a dissertation, and it has been the subject of only six literary studies, several of them no more than a couple of pages long. —Claudia Johnson in To Kill a Mockingbird: Threatening Boundaries, 1994[55] When the book was released, reviewers noted that it was divided into two parts, and its opinion was mixed about Lee's ability to connect them.[56] The first part of the novel concerns the children's fascination with Boo Radley and their feelings of safety and comfort in the neighborhood. Reviewers were generally charmed by Scout and Jem's observations of their quirky neighbors. One writer was impressed by Lee's detailed explanations of the people of Maycomb that he categorized the book as Southern romantic regionalism.[57] This sentimentalism can be seen in Lee's representation of the Southern caste system to explain almost every character's behavior in the novel. Scout's Aunt Alexandra attributes Maycomb's inhabitants' faults and advantages to genealogy (families that have gambling streaks and drinking streaks).[58] and the narrator sets the action and characters amid a finely detailed background of the Finch family history and the history of Maycomb. This regionalist theme is further reflected in Mayella Ewell's apparent powerlessness to admit her advances toward Tom Robinson, and Scout's definition of "fine folks" being people with good sense who do the best they can with what they have. The South, with its traditions and taboos, seems to drive the plot more than the characters.[57] The second part of the novel deals with what book reviewer Harding LeMay termed "the spirit-corroding shame of the civilized white Southerner in the treatment of the Negro".[56] In the years following its release, many reviewers considered To Kill a Mockingbird a novel primarily concerned with race relations.[59] Claudia Durst Johnson considers it "reasonable to believe" that the novel was shaped by two events involving racial issues in Alabama: Rosa Parks' refusal to yield her seat on a city bus to a white person, which sparked the Montgomery bus boycott, and the 1956 riots at the University of Alabama after Autherine Lucy and Polly Myers were admitted (Myers eventually withdrew her application and Lucy was expelled, but reinstated in 1980).[60] In writing about the historical context of the novel's construction, two other literary scholars remark: "To Kill a Mockingbird was written and published amidst the most significant and conflict-ridden social change in the South since the Civil War and Reconstruction. Inevitably, despite its mid-1930s setting, the story told from the perspective of the 1950s voices the conflicts, tensions, and fears induced by this transition".[61] Scholar Patrick Chura, who suggests Emmett Till was a model for Tom Robinson, enumerates the injustices endured by the fictional Tom that Till also faced. Chura notes the icon of the black rapist causing harm to the representation of the "mythologized vulnerable and sacred Southern womanhood".[29] Any transgressions by black males that merely hinted at sexual contact with white females during the time the novel was set often resulted in a punishment of death for the accused. Tom Robinson's trial was judged by poor white farmers who convicted him despite overwhelming evidence of his innocence, as more educated and moderate white townspersons supported the jury's decision. Furthermore, the victim of racial injustice in To Kill a Mockingbird was physically impaired, which made him unable to commit the act he was accused of, but also crippled him in other ways.[29] Roslyn Siegel includes Tom Robinson as an example of the recurring motif among white Southern writers of the black man as "stupid, pathetic, defenseless, and dependent upon the fair dealing of the whites, rather than his own intelligence to save him".[62] Although Tom is spared from being lynched, he is killed with excessive violence during an attempted escape from prison, being shot seventeen times. The theme of racial injustice appears symbolically in the novel as well. For example, Atticus must shoot a rabid dog, even though it is not his job to do so.[63] Carolyn Jones argues that the dog represents prejudice within the town of Maycomb, and Atticus, who waits on a deserted street to shoot the dog,[64] must fight against the town's racism without help from other white citizens. He is also alone when he faces a group intending to lynch Tom Robinson and once more in the courthouse during Tom's trial. Lee even uses dreamlike imagery from the mad dog incident to describe some of the courtroom scenes. Jones writes, "[t]he real mad dog in Maycomb is the racism that denies the humanity of Tom Robinson ... When Atticus makes his summation to the jury, he literally bares himself to the jury's and the town's anger".[64] One of the amazing things about the writing in To Kill a Mockingbird is the economy with which Harper Lee delineates not only race—white and black within a small community—but class. I mean different kinds of black people and white people both, from poor white trash to the upper crust, —Lee Smith[65] In a 1964 interview, Lee remarked that her aspiration was "to be ... the Jane Austen of South Alabama".[66] Both Atticus and Lee challenged the social status quo and valued individual worth over social standing. When Scout embarrasses her poorer classmate, Walter Cunningham, at the Finch home one day, Calpurnia, their black cook, chastises and punishes her for doing so.[66] Atticus respects Calpurnia's "judgment" and later in the book even stands up to her sister, the formidable Aunt Alexandra, when she strongly suggests they fire Calpurnia.[67] One writer notes that Scout, "in Austenian fashion", satirizes women with whom she does not wish to identify.[68] Literary critic Jean Blackall lists the priorities shared by the two authors: "affirmation of order in society, obedience, courtesy, and respect for the individual without regard for status".[69] Scholars argue that Lee's approach to class and race was more complex "than ascribing racial prejudice primarily to 'poor white trash' ... Lee demonstrates how issues of gender and class intensify prejudice, silence the voices that might challenge the existing order, and greatly complicate many Americans' conception of the causes of racism and segregation".[61] Lee's use of the middle-class narrative voice is a literary device that allows an intimacy with the reader, regardless of class or cultural background, and fosters a sense of nostalgia. Sharing Scout and Jem's perspective, the reader is allowed to engage in relationships with the conservative antebellum Mrs. Dubose; the lower-class Ewells, and the Cunninghams who are equally poor but behave in vastly different ways; the wealthy but ostracized Mr. Dolphus Raymond; and Calpurnia and other members of the black community. The children internalize Atticus' admonition not to judge someone until they have walked around in that person's skin, gaining a greater understanding of people's motives and behavior.[61] The novel has been noted for its poignant exploration of different forms of courage.[69][70] Scout's impulsive inclination to fight students who insult Atticus reflects her attempt to stand up for him and defend him. Atticus is the moral center of the novel, however, and he teaches Jem that one of the most significant lessons of courage.[71] In a statement that both foreshadows Atticus' motivation for defending Tom Robinson and describes Mrs. Dubose, who is determined to break herself of a morphine addiction, Atticus tells Jem that courage is "when you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what".[72] External videos After Words interview with Shields on Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee, July 11, 2015, C-SPAN Charles J. Shields, who wrote the first book-length biography of Harper Lee, offers the reason for the novel's enduring popularity and impact is that "its lessons of human dignity and respect for others remain fundamental and universal".[73] Atticus' lesson to Scout that "you never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view—until you climb around in his skin and walk around in it" exemplifies his compassion.[70][74] She ponders the comment when listening to Mayella Ewell's testimony. When Mayella reacts with confusion to Atticus' question if she has any friends, Scout offers that she must be lonelier than Boo Radley. Having walked Boo home after he saves their lives, Scout stands on the Radley porch and considers the events of the previous three years from Boo's perspective. One writer remarks, "... 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Johnson notes that even in Scout and Jem's childhood world, compromises and treaties are struck with each other by spitting on one's palm, and laws are discussed by Atticus and his children: is it right that Bob Ewell hunts and traps out of season? Many social codes are broken by people in symbolic courtrooms: Mr. Dolphus Raymond has been exiled by society for taking a black woman as his common-law wife and having interracial children; Mayella Ewell is beaten by her father in punishment for kissing Tom Robinson; by being turned into a non-person, Boo Radley receives a punishment far greater than any court could have given him.[60] Scout repeatedly breaks codes and laws to help her friends. For example, she refuses to wear frilly clothes, saying that Aunt Alexandra's "fanatical" attempts to place her in them made her feel "a pink cotton penitentiary closing in on [her]".[78] Johnson states, "[t]he novel is a study of how Jem and Scout begin to perceive the complexity of social codes and how the reader considers things from his point of view—until you climb around in his skin and walk around in it" exemplifies his compassion.[70][74] She ponders the comment when listening to Mayella Ewell's testimony. When Mayella reacts with confusion to Atticus' question if she has any friends, Scout offers that she must be lonelier than Boo Radley. Having walked Boo home after he saves their lives, Scout stands on the Radley porch and considers the events of the previous three years from Boo's perspective. One writer remarks, "... [w]hile the novel concerns tragedy and injustice, heartache and loss, it also carries with it a strong sense of [off] courage, compassion, and an awareness of history to be better human beings".[70] Just as Lee explores Jem's development in coming to grips with a racist and unjust society, Scout realizes what being female means, and several female characters influence her development. Scout's primary identification with her father and older brother allows her to describe the variety and depth of female characters in the novel. Scout's lack of willingness to adhere to a more feminine role are also those who promote the most racist and classist points of view.[68] For example, Mrs. Dubose chastises Scout for not wearing a dress and camisole, and indicates she is ruining the family name by not doing so, in addition to insulting Atticus