

Applied Practice
in

To Kill a Mockingbird
PRE-AP/AP**

By Harper Lee

RESOURCE GUIDE

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APPLIED PRACTICE
Resource Guide
To Kill a Mockingbird
Pre-AP*/AP* Version

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VOCABULARY LIST FOR *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

Note: Vocabulary from the literary passage is listed first, followed by vocabulary from the questions and answers.

Passage 1

slop
hitched
flicked
detachment
slat
epic
entity

jaded
anemic
shiftlessness
refute
uniqueness
dispassionate
maudlin
surrealistic

Passage 2

expounding
erratic
contradict
iniquities
solitary

admonishment
subservience
pretentiousness
grudgingly
exploited

Passage 3

unfathomable
aberrations
ripple
feeble
accosted
meteorological

hypocrisy
inattentiveness
condemnation
repressed

Passage 2, Questions 8-15. Read the passage from Chapter 3 which begins ““Reason I can’t pass the first grade, Mr. Finch”” and ends ““You think about how much Cal does for you, and you mind her, you hear?”” (pages 24-25) carefully before you choose your answers.

8. Walter’s conversation in the first paragraph reveals all of the following EXCEPT
- (A) his mental limitations
 - (B) his family loyalty
 - (C) his poverty
 - (D) his father’s occupation
 - (E) his politeness
9. Atticus “shook his head” at Scout (second paragraph) to express his
- (A) disappointment
 - (B) admonishment
 - (C) anger
 - (D) wonder
 - (E) approval
10. In the sentence “It was then that Calpurnia requested my presence in the kitchen” the word “requested” serves to show Calpurnia’s
- (A) subservience
 - (B) pretentiousness
 - (C) tactfulness
 - (D) powerlessness
 - (E) insecurity
11. Calpurnia’s response to Scout’s remark, ““He ain’t company, Cal, he’s just a Cunningham,”” reveals that
- (A) Calpurnia resents being seen as less than equal
 - (B) there are different expectations for girls than for boys in Maycomb
 - (C) children must take on adult roles in Scout’s family
 - (D) there is a social class system in Maycomb
 - (E) Calpurnia fears Atticus’ reaction to Scout’s behavior
12. It can be inferred from the sentence which begins “I retrieved my plate . . .” (in the paragraph beginning “Calpurnia sent me . . .”) that Scout
- (A) remains defiant despite Calpurnia’s scolding
 - (B) understands the rudeness of her prior behavior
 - (C) is humiliated by Calpurnia’s treatment
 - (D) is grateful that Calpurnia has explained things
 - (E) is glad that a small spank was her only punishment

ANSWER EXPLANATIONS
PASSAGE 2

8. (A) his mental limitations. The only mention of mental ability is the “can’t pass the first grade,” but that is explained to be a result of missing months of school in the spring to help tend the family’s crops rather than a result of inadequate mental ability. Family loyalty is evident in that Walter accepts having to miss school to help the family, and poverty is also evident since the family cannot afford to hire a field hand. The references to “field” and “help Papa with the choppin” point to the father being a farmer. His use of “Mr. Finch” shows Walter’s politeness.

9. (B) admonishment. Atticus is warning (admonishing) Scout not to continue her line of questioning about how Walter’s family paid the doctor to deliver Walter’s sibling since this highlights Walter’s poverty. It is not disappointment or anger because Atticus knows that Scout’s question is innocent curiosity rather than an attempt to embarrass.

10. (C) tactfulness. The manner in which Calpurnia speaks to Scout once they are in the kitchen shows her power and lack of subservience or insecurity. The fact that Calpurnia “requested” (rather than ordered) Scout to leave the table and come to the kitchen shows that Calpurnia was preserving both Scout’s and Walter’s dignity and preventing a scene.

11. (D) there is a social class system in Maycomb. The existence of a class system is evident in Calpurnia’s words “Don’t matter who they are” and “Yo’ folks might be better’n the Cunninghams” She tacitly acknowledges that the Cunninghams are part of a social class beneath that of the Finches. However, her point is that a guest deserves to be treated respectfully, regardless of his or her social position.

12. (B) understands the rudeness of her prior behavior. Because Scout says she is “thankful” that she “was spared the humiliation of facing them again,” the reader knows Scout is now aware of how inappropriate her behavior was. “Thankful” rules out her having been “humiliated” by Calpurnia’s words. “Grateful” is too positive for Scout’s feelings. The verbal reprimand was Scout’s real “punishment” rather than the “stinging smack” that was delivered almost as an afterthought.

13. (E) take revenge on her. Scout elaborates on how she will “fix” Calpurnia: “I’d go off and drown myself in Barker’s Eddy and then she’d be sorry.” In Scout’s mind, doing something drastic to make Calpurnia sorry would be the appropriate revenge for Calpurnia’s scolding.

14. (B) illustrate Scout’s injured pride. Scout recognizes that facing Walter, Jem, and Atticus after her scolding would be humiliating. Her lashing out at Calpurnia, threatening to “fix her” and blaming her for her troubles at school show that Scout’s pride has been wounded and that she knows Calpurnia has correctly pointed out the inappropriateness of Scout’s behavior.