

Summer Reading Assignment
English 11
Summer 2010

SUPPLY LIST: same as last year, but add: 1 box of tissues, 1 clorox wipes

This summer you are to:

- Read Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.
- Write 9 journal entries (1 page each, front and back) in a composition book, answering the questions below. These entries are informal; you may use first person and relate the issues to your own life/society, but be sure to answer each question *thoroughly*, citing the specific instances in the book.

Bring *To Kill a Mockingbird* with you to class the first day—we will spend the first few weeks discussing and writing from this book.

FIRST JOURNAL: What does Atticus mean when he teaches Scout she must be able to climb into someone else's skin and walk around in it? How have you had to do this in your own life?

SECOND JOURNAL: Briefly describe a few of Dill's, Jem's and Scout's imaginary games. Do you believe imagination is important? Why or why not? What imaginary games did you play as a child? How did that change you as a person?

THIRD JOURNAL: What does Jem learn about courage from having to read to Mrs. Dubose? What is Mrs. Dubose's real struggle?

FOURTH JOURNAL: Consider Atticus' quote, "simply because we were licked a hundred years before we started is no reason for us not to try to win." What event(s) is Atticus referencing? Do you think a thing is worth doing if you're sure to lose? Have you ever done something because you knew it was right even though you knew you wouldn't succeed/you would lose?

FIFTH JOURNAL: Should Jem have obeyed his father when Atticus ordered him to go home from where he (Atticus) was keeping vigil outside Tom's cell? Was Jem right in disobeying?

SIXTH JOURNAL: What does Miss Maudie mean when she says, "we're the safest folks in the world. We're so rarely called on to be Christians, but when we are, we've got men like Atticus to go for us"?

SEVENTH JOURNAL: What happens to Scout at the end of the book when she stands on the Radley porch?

EIGHTH JOURNAL: What does the title mean (be detailed in your response in reference to the events of the book)? Who are the mockingbirds?

NINTH JOURNAL: How has Scout changed since the beginning of the book? Be specific.