**Chapter 17 Questions**

1. Describe Tom Robinson's alleged crime, as told by Bob Ewell and Heck Tate.   
**Tom Robinson was accused of raping Mayella Ewell. Heck Tate explains what happens from when he arrived. Mayella was crying and very beat up, with bruises all over her body and a black eye on her right eye. Bob Ewell explains how he heard someone screaming from the house and ran in to see what had happened. He saw Mayella on the floor crying and screaming and Tom Robinson Take off. He chased Tom Robinson and then went to get Heck Tate. He agreed with everything that Heck Tate said.**

2. What evidence does Atticus reveal about Bob Ewell that may find him guilty of Tom Robinson's alleged crime?   
**Atticus reveals that Bob Ewell is left handed. This is significant because most of Mayella Ewell's injuries were on the right side of her face. This would suggest that the person who hurt her was left-handed.**

3. Characterize Bob Ewell (describe his actions, language/speech, and other people's points of view).

**Bob Ewell is a rude, good-for-nothing man who abuses his daughter and likes to drink. Mr Ewell was disrespectful to nearly everyone else present in the courtroom as he used obscenities and slang in his speech. He certainly lived up to his reputation of being "white trash" and even mocked his own lawyer, calling him "cap'n" and not talking his questions seriously. Mr Ewell and his family "lived as guests" in their own county. Maycomb is accustomed to turning a blind eye to the Ewells habits, for example, the Ewell children are exempted from school and Mr Ewell is allowed to hunt out of season. They are the scum of the white society and they live in a dirty, run-down cabin behind the town garbage dump.**

4. Judge Taylor refuses to close the courtroom and says, “People generally see what they look for, and hear what they listen for, and they have the right to subject their children to it...” What does he mean?

**We are all biased and view the world through our own unique lens. We seek out information that confirms our biases, even if that information isn’t the full truth of what was said or of the situation. If you go into a situation expecting to be disappointed, you’ll be disappointed, no matter what actually happens**

**Chapter 18 Questions**

1. What does Atticus do that makes Mayella Ewell think that he’s making fun of her? What does this show us about Mayella’s life?

**He refers to her as “ma’am” and “Miss Mayella,” which are both terms of respect. No one has ever addressed her with such respectful terms, so she thinks he must be mocking her. This is sad. We should pity Mayella here because she’s been treated roughly and disrespected her entire life.**

2. Comparison: How are Mayella and her father similar? Contrast: How are they different?   
**Mayella and her father are similar in some ways, such as being hesitant when Atticus asked them questions. However when Mr Gilmer, the prosecutor asked them questions, they were able to answer his questions quickly with ease. Also, both Mayella and Bob Ewell seemed to not like Atticus. They have a good reason to why they do not like Atticus, and that is because Atticus thinks that the Ewells are purposely trying to blame Tom Robinson on beating up Mayella and raping her. Mayella and her father are different too. Mayella would panic sometimes when Atticus asked her questions but Bob Ewell did not. He remained calm, even when he didn't know what he was doing.**

3. What does Scout notice about Mayella as she leaves the witness stand and passes Atticus’ defense table?

**Scout has never seen anyone stare at another person with so much hatred as Mayella stares at Atticus.**

**Chapter 19 Questions**   
1. Which characters have courage to break society's code of ethics for this setting? Explain their courageous acts.

**The most obvious person who shows their courage to break society’s code of ethics in this setting is Atticus. There are many times when this is exemplified by Atticus just defending Tom Robinson and doing his job. Tom is also being courageous by saying that Mayella kissed him and implying that Bob, Mayella and Mr. Tate were not being truthful. He does this even though he is hesitant because he knows that the majority of the town is against him and it could possibly be dangerous for him, his family and even Atticus. Near the end of the chapter, Dill expresses how the way Mr. Gilmer was treating Tom made him sick and it wasn’t fair. Mr. Dolphus Raymond agrees with Dill showing he may not be as cruel as he originally appeared to be.**

**OR**

**In this chapter, Atticus has obviously showed courage against this society's code of ethics, just by defending Tom Robinson, and giving him a fair trial, and not judging him because of the colour of his skin and also the fact that people will judge him for defending a black man.  
  
Another character that has shown great courage in this chapter is Tom Robinson himself, by telling everyone in the courtroom that Mayella was trying to kiss him. This is very brave due to the fact that most of the people in that courtroom are against him, and that they won't believe him, and definitely ly will not like the things that he is saying that Mayella did.  
  
And the last character that I thought broke society's code of ethics with his courage is Mr. Link Deas. He did this by standing up for Tom Robinson, even though he is black. He did this by raising up in the middle of the courtroom and announcing that Tom Robinson is a good man and he never causes any trouble.**

1. Why was it a “mistake” for Tom to say that he felt sorry for Mayella?

**The white community finds it offensive that a black man would feel sorry for a white woman because it implies that Tom thinks of himself in a position of being better than her. It sounds uppity to the white people in the room, even though he doesn’t mean it that way.**

**Chapter 20**   
1. At the beginning of the chapter, we find out that Mr. Raymond sips only Coca-Cola from a paper sack, deliberately pretending to be drunk. Why does he do this?

**He says it makes it easier for people to accept his unconventional lifestyle choices if they think he’s a drunkard. He says the drunkenness is a reason that people can point to as an explanation of things they do not understand.**

2. Why does Mr. Raymond tell Scout and Dill about his life?

**He knows that Dill was made ill by the injustice he witnessed. He says that children see things as they really are, so he doesn’t mind if they know his secret.**

1. How does Atticus's closing statement help his defendant, Tom Robinson? How does his closing statement hurt his defendant?

**Atticus's extremely long and profound closing statement helped his defendant Tom Robinson by telling the gentlemen of the jury that "all men are created equal" and that Tom should be treated fairly because he's a human being just like everyone else. Atticus also proved to the jury that the Ewell's and Heck Tate didn't have enough evidence to convict Tom Robinson and that their testimonies didn't make sense when put together. In some ways Atticus closing statement hurts his defendant Tom Robinson, when Atticus starts saying Meyella threw herself at Tom. I think this hurts Tom because he knows the jury won't believe what Atticus is trying to prove.**

1. How do you think the jury will react to Atticus's closing statement? Explain your reasoning.

**The jury will have some compassion for Tom Robinson but for the sake of the rules in society they will charge him as guilty because a white man’s word over powers a black man’s word.**

**Chapter 21**   
1. Why is a long-deliberating jury a good sign?

**Clearly, there’s some dissention. At least some of the jurors think Tom is not guilty.**

1. Why do the people in the balcony gallery stand when Atticus leaves the courtroom?

**They stand to show respect. Yes, Atticus lost the case, but he fought valiantly. There’s honor in the fight and they recognize that he launched the best defense possible.**

3.Who believes that Tom Robinson has a chance at being set free? Why do they believe this?   
**After Tom Robinson was accused of raping Mayella Ewell and put to court, mainly the Finch children - Jem and Scout - truly believed that Tom had a chance to be set free. I think they felt this way because after listening and watching the testimonies of the community members apart of the case, it was strongly obvious of the truth. The clues all showed that Tom was in fact not guilty and it was Bob Ewell who hurt Mayella. The children also knew that their father Atticus was an excellent lawyer and throughout the case demonstrated outstanding skills for defending Tom Robinson. In the end Tom was announced guilty, even though everyone knew the truth. It was a matter of black versus white. Both children are still quite young and can't even understand how or why people think that black people aren't even human and the awful racism that took place. These reasons all explain why they believed this.**