

Potential essay topics for *To Kill a Mockingbird* final.

GROWING UP / JEM / SCOUT

It means many things to grow up in the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Growing up in the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* means different things to different characters.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, where a person grows up determines how a person grows up.

Growing up has changed from the time of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Maycomb's kids grow up a lot like their parents.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, it takes big events for a person to grow up.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, growing up is full of surprises.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Jem grows up in many different ways.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Jem is trying to figure out what to believe.

In the course of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Scout's ideas are transformed.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Scout often doesn't understand what's happening around her.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, being grown-up is not a physical thing.

RACISM / TOM / CALPURNIA

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, racism is an everyday thing.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, racism is everywhere.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the pervasive racism often goes unnoticed.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the racism is often both on and under the surface.

The racism of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* is different from racism today.

The racism of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* is not that different from racism today.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, racism cuts both ways.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Maycomb's racism is like a cancer.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Maycomb's racism is like an addiction to video games.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the mockingbird is a metaphor for specific characters.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Calpurnia is different from other African Americans in the story.

DOING THE RIGHT THING / ATTICUS

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, it can be extremely difficult to do the right thing.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, it's easy to do the right thing if it's a small thing.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, sometimes the right thing and the wrong thing are hard to tell apart.

Doing the right thing is something that must be learned in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Atticus is the perfect choice to defend Tom Robinson in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, Atticus is a man of dignity and integrity.

Atticus Finch is the smartest character in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus Finch is a true hero.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus Finch is a flawed human being.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, it is easier to do the right thing if a person has power.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, it is harder to do the right thing if a person has power.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, very few people actually do the right thing.

OUTSIDERS / BOO / MAYELLA

Almost everyone in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* is an outsider at one point or another.

Being an outsider has consequences in the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Mayella Ewell is a victim of poverty and ignorance.

Mayella Ewell is the biggest outsider in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

The Radleys are the biggest outsiders in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, Boo Radley is Maycomb's outsider.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, whether a person is inside or outside depends on their situation.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, outsiders are either dangerous or exciting, or both.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, outsiders have limited opportunities.

In the Maycomb of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, outsiders have limited status.

Associating with outsiders can make any person an outsider in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, outsiders are a mystery.

In Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, sometimes it's better to be an outsider.

CHARACTER

Although some of the characters in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* appear to be static, Aunt Alexandra is one example of a dynamic character.

Although some of the characters in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* appear to be static, Scout Finch is one example of a dynamic character.

Although some of the characters in Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* appear to be static, Jem Finch is one example of a dynamic character.

TONE

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee uses very specific language to establish tone and convey to the reader her attitude toward specific characters.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee uses very specific language to establish tone and convey to the reader her attitude toward religion.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee uses very specific language to establish tone and convey to the reader her attitude toward specific customs.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee uses connotative language and idioms to establish character and setting.

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, the voice of Scout is layered to reflect multiple points of view as the narrator is, sometimes simultaneously, a naïve young girl and a knowledgeable older narrator.

The tone of Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* is often ironic and sometimes reflects the gap between what children know and what adults know, and sometimes between what the characters know and what we know as readers.