

To Kill a Mockingbird Essay Prompt:

Choose one of the following prompts. Write a well-organized essay with the required strategies below.

- 1) Analyze Harper Lee's portrayal of education in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.
- 2) How does Harper Lee use minor characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird* to explore some of the main concerns of the novel?
- 3) Why is the novel titled *To Kill a Mockingbird*? What characters in the text could be considered mockingbirds? Explain how one, or three, character/s could line up with Lee's metaphoric definition of a mockingbird.

Your essay should include the following

- A 3 step/keyhole introduction including a FATt sentence
- A Sheridan baker thesis statement in your introductory paragraph
- CEIEI paragraphs with clear arguments or claims
- At least 6 carefully selected, relevant quotes that support your argument
- Ties for each quote
- Proper MLA citations to accompany each quote
- Sophisticated interpretation of each quote
- Proper grammar and mechanics
- Academic verbs
- A 3 step/keyhole conclusion paragraph
- MLA format
- A Creative Title

MLA format:

- Times New Roman, 12 point font
- Heading in top, left corner
- Double-spaced essay
- Properly formatted titles (italics or quotation marks)
- Header in top, right corner: Last name and page number
- Essay title centered

Sample Thesis Statements

Although many characters in the novel are uneducated, Harper Lee portrays education positively/negatively because _____, _____, and _____.

Although the main characters in the novel are tangled up in complicated issues, Lee uses minor characters to explore social issues because _____, _____, and _____.

Although Scout recognizes injustices brought on oppressed characters, _____, _____, and _____ represent mockingbirds because _____.

Although Scout recognizes injustices brought on oppressed characters, _____, _____, and _____ represent mockingbirds because _____.