**Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

C- Circle (and define) at least 3 words you don’t know.

A- Ask level 1, 2, and 3 questions (2 or more)

T- Talk to the text. Make connections to the novel. Add commentary (3 or more)

C- Summarize once at the end

H- Highlight/underline the most important lines.

What is Social Class**? What** different social classes exist in Maycomb?

Social Class Defined: A social class is a group of people who have similar income levels and who often have common ethnic, cultural, or religious backgrounds.

**Social Class in Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird***

There are four major *social classes* in Maycomb. Although Scout and Jem aren’t fully aware of the class differences in Maycomb until the last part of the novel, these differences in social class have a big influence on the novel’s events.

**The Wealthy Educated Whites**: This class of people is at the top of

Maycomb’s social pyramid. Their families have been wealthy for many generations. Many owned slaves before the civil war. They are college educated and either own large farms or work as doctors, lawyers, or business owners. This class does not mix with the lower classes.

This is why Aunt Alexandra refers to the Cunningham’s as “trash,” and tells Scout that she is not allowed to play with Walter.

**Which characters from the book represent this class? Use your novels and partners to identify at least six different characters: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**The Working Class Whites:** This class is represented by the Cunningham’s. They are honest, hard-working farmers who are not educated. They work hard to earn what they have. During the Great Depression they didn’t rely on the government for help, but instead lived off of the land. They are independent and refuse to take a hand-out. Remember in the early parts of the novel Walter Cunningham refuses to take lunch from his teacher Miss Caroline. His father works to pay back the money he owes Atticus, even though he pays him with items from his land and his farm.



**The non-working poor or “White Trash”:** This class is represented

by the Ewell family. They are even more poor than the working class

whites. They do not like working and rely on the government for help.

Many “white trash” were seen as dirty, filthy, and dishonest. Burris

Ewell, who has lice in his hair, and who only attends school one day a

year because of his alcoholic father is a good example of a *white trash*

stereotype. Atticus refers to them as “trash” not because they are poor, but because they are dishonest.

**The Black Community:** The African Americans in Maycomb are the lowest of all social groups, simply because of their race. Like the “white trash” they live near the dump. Because of the harsh Jim Crow laws they live in fear of the white community. They must face racism and prejudice on a daily basis. The court often did not protect them or their rights to equal protection under the law. Even though some African American people (like Calpurnia and her family) were educated, they were at the bottom of the social pyramid only because of their skin color.

**Characters in this social class: (Use your novel to list at least four.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Exit Slip: (Independent work. Due in class)**

1. Two different views: Look at the quotes from Jem and Scout below. Which philosophy (way of thinking) do you think you agree with more in today’s modern world? Justify your answer.

1. "There's four kinds of folks in the world. There's the ordinary kind like us and the neighbors, there's the kind like the Cunninghams out in the woods, the kind like the Ewells down at the dump, and the Negroes…Our kind of folks don' like the Cunninghams, the Cunninghams don't like the Ewells, and the Ewells hate and despise the colored folks.” -Jem Finch in To Kill a Mockingbird
2. “I think there’s just one kind of folks. Folks.” - Scout Finch in To Kill a Mockingbird

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1. How does Scout being younger than Jem make her opinion about people very different than his?

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1. In what ways do you see social classes working in today’s world? Do they still affect our way of thinking as much as they did in the 1930s? Why or why not? Explain your answer.

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