

To Kill a Mockingbird Vocabulary

Chapters 1 – 3

1. eccentric – deviating from the recognized or customary character, practice, etc.; irregular; erratic; peculiar; odd: eccentric conduct; an eccentric person.
2. malevolent – 1.)Having or exhibiting ill will; wishing harm to others; malicious.
2.)Having an evil or harmful influence: malevolent stars.
3. intimidation – to make timid; fill with fear.
4. condescended - to behave as if one is conscious of descending from a superior position, rank, or dignity.
5. indigenous - originating in and characteristic of a particular region or country; native (often followed by to): the plants indigenous to Canada; the indigenous peoples of southern Africa.
6. pronouncements – a formal or authoritative statement.
7. irked – to irritate, annoy, or exasperate: It irked him to wait in line.
8. persevere – to persist in anything undertaken; maintain a purpose in spite of difficulty, obstacles, or discouragement; continue steadfastly.
9. compromise – a settlement of differences by mutual concessions; an agreement reached by adjustment of conflicting or opposing claims, principles, etc., by reciprocal modification of demands.

Chapters 4 – 7

1. tyranny - arbitrary or unrestrained exercise of power; despotic abuse of authority.
2. unanimous - of one mind; in complete agreement; agreed.
3. evasion - an act or instance of escaping, avoiding, or shirking something: evasion of one's duty.
4. chameleon - a changeable, fickle, or inconstant person.
5. tormenting - to afflict with great bodily or mental suffering; pain: to be tormented with violent headaches.
6. quibbling - characterized by or consisting of quibbles; carping; niggling: quibbling debates.
7. teetered - to move unsteadily.
8. malignant - disposed to cause harm, suffering, or distress deliberately; feeling or showing ill will or hatred.

Chapter 8 – 9

1. entrusted - to charge or invest with a trust or responsibility; charge with a specified office or duty involving trust: We entrusted him with our lives.
2. adjacent - lying near, close, or contiguous; adjoining; neighboring: a motel adjacent to the highway.
3. perplexity - The state of being perplexed or puzzled.
4. ingenuous - free from reserve, restraint, or dissimulation; candid; sincere.
5. fanatical - motivated or characterized by an extreme, uncritical enthusiasm or zeal, as in religion or politics.
6. isolate - to set or place apart; detach or separate so as to be alone.
7. debating - a discussion, as of a public question in an assembly, involving opposing viewpoints: a debate in the Senate on farm price supports.

8. acquainted - having personal knowledge as a result of study, experience, etc.; informed (usually fol. by with): to be acquainted with law.

Chapters 10 – 11

1. contemporaries - existing, occurring, or living at the same time; belonging to the same time: Newton's discovery of the calculus was contemporary with that of Leibniz.
2. inconspicuous - not conspicuous, noticeable, or prominent.
3. peril - exposure to injury, loss, or destruction; grave risk; jeopardy; danger: They faced the peril of falling rocks.
4. contradict - to assert the contrary or opposite of; deny directly and categorically.
5. inaudible - not audible; incapable of being heard.
6. cantankerous - disagreeable to deal with; contentious; peevish: a cantankerous, argumentative man.

Chapters 12 – 14

1. compensation - the act or state of compensating.
2. emerge - to come forth into view or notice, as from concealment or obscurity: a ghost emerging from the grave; a ship emerging from the fog.
3. acquired - to come into possession or ownership of; get as one's own: to acquire property.
4. ecclesiastical - of or pertaining to the church or the clergy; churchly; clerical; not secular.
5. extract - to get, pull, or draw out, usually with special effort, skill, or force: to extract a tooth.
6. preoccupation - the state of being preoccupied.
7. pensive - dreamily or wistfully thoughtful: a pensive mood.
8. antagonize - to make hostile or unfriendly; make an enemy or antagonist of: His speech antagonized many voters.
9. infallible - absolutely trustworthy or sure: an infallible rule.

Chapters 15 - 17

10. defendant – *Law.* a person, company, etc., against whom a claim or charge is brought in a court.
11. begrudge – to envy or resent the pleasure or good fortune of (someone): *She begrudged her friend the award.*
12. oblivious – unmindful; unconscious; unaware (usually fol. by of or to): *She was oblivious of his admiration*
13. acquiescence – the act or condition of acquiescing or giving tacit assent; agreement or consent by silence or without objection; compliance (usually fol. by to or in): *acquiescence to his boss's demands.*
14. encumbered – to impede or hinder; hamper; retard: *Red tape encumbers all our attempts at action.*
15. dispelled – to drive off in various directions; disperse; dissipate: *to dispel the dense fog.*

16. indulge – to yield to an inclination or desire; allow oneself to follow one's will (often fol. by in): *Dessert came, but I didn't indulge. They indulged in unbelievable shopping sprees.*
17. amiably – having or showing pleasant, good-natured personal qualities; affable: an amiable disposition.
18. complacently – pleased, esp. with oneself or one's merits, advantages, situation, etc., often without awareness of some potential danger or defect; self-satisfied: *The voters are too complacent to change the government.*

Chapters 18 – 21

1. stealthy – done, characterized, or acting by stealth; furtive: *stealthy footsteps.*
2. prejudice – an unfavorable opinion or feeling formed beforehand or without knowledge, thought, or reason.
3. irrelevant – not relevant; not applicable or pertinent: *His lectures often stray to interesting but irrelevant subjects.*
4. subtlety – the state or quality of being subtle.
5. fraud – deceit, trickery, sharp practice, or breach of confidence, perpetrated for profit or to gain some unfair or dishonest advantage.
6. subsequent – occurring or coming later or after (often fol. by to): subsequent events; *Subsequent to their arrival in Chicago, they bought a new car.*
7. pauper – a person without any means of support, esp. a destitute person who depends on aid from public welfare funds or charity.

Chapters 26-31

1. allegedly - according to what is or has been alleged.
2. persecuted - to pursue with harassing or oppressive treatment, esp. because of religion, race, or beliefs; harass persistently.
3. assessment - the act of assessing; appraisal; evaluation.
4. consented - to permit, approve, or agree; comply or yield (often fol. by to or an infinitive): He consented to the proposal. We asked her permission, and she consented.
5. inconveniences - the quality or state of being inconvenient.