

To Kill A Mockingbird Final Essay Prompts



You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view – until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.

Your Task: Select one of the following essay topics and begin drafting a rough draft according to the attached checklist and outline.

1. Select what you believe is a dominant theme in the novel and craft an essay discussing its significance. Be sure to discuss the author's purpose in crafting specific scenes and characters (this analysis should relate to the theme you choose).
2. Both Atticus Finch and Bob Ewell are important characters in the novel. Compare and contrast these important characters. Be sure to examine Harper Lee's purpose in creating these two different characters.
3. Atticus tells his children, "It's a sin to kill a mockingbird." What reason does he give for saying this? The metaphor of the "mockingbird" is an important theme in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Write an essay on how and why this theme is used throughout the book. Be sure to explain exactly who the "mockingbirds" are in the story.
4. Another prompt of your choosing. This must be cleared with me prior to beginning.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis focused, insightful, and logical. • Focus remains on thesis. • Supporting examples/commentary reveal critical analysis or insight. • Quotations/examples clearly connect with and develop thesis. • Body paragraphs use topic sentences, supporting details, and commentary smoothly. • Quotations smoothly blended into text. • 3rd person POV consistent. • Tense use accurate. • Standard English used fluently, complex sentences risked. • Word processed and formatted correctly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis analyzes elements of literature. • Focus generally remains on thesis. • Supporting examples/commentary sufficient to develop thesis. • Quotations generally support thesis. • Body paragraphs use topic sentences, supporting details, and commentary. • Quotations blended into text. • 3rd person POV consistent. • Complete sentences are used throughout. • Standard English used throughout. • Word processed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis is vague or broad. • Focus strays from thesis. • Supporting examples/commentary are too vague to support thesis. • Quotations provide limited connection to thesis. • Internal paragraph organization is faulty. • Quotations are not effectively blended into text. • 3rd person POV is inconsistent. • Tense errors noticeable. • Standard English errors noticeable and detract. • Hand written. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis not evident. • Focus strays from thesis. • Supporting examples/commentary missing or irrelevant. • Quotations missing or unconnected to thesis. • Paragraphs have little internal order. • Non-standard English is used throughout and detracts. • 3rd person POV inconsistent. • Grammar errors are common. • Hand written.

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Über Basic Essay Outline Sample:

- I. Introduction: Main Idea of entire paper is stated in a **Thesis sentence**.
 - A. Paragraph #1: What is the paper going to talk about in its body paragraphs? Introduce your essay topic and your purpose for writing the paper. Be sure to “hook” the reader’s attention

- II. Body: Develop and support your paper’s thesis with well-developed paragraphs.
 - A. Paragraph #2: Main Idea 1
 1. Topic Sentence
 2. Support Sentences (Unity and Coherence)
 - a. Detail: Specific examples, details, and quotations from novel
 3. Explanation/commentary: How do my selected examples, details, and quotations support my topic sentence/opinion (Answer the “so what?” factor)

 - B. Paragraph #3: Main Idea 2
 1. Topic Sentence
 2. Support Sentences (Unity and Coherence)
 - a. Detail: Specific examples, details, and quotations from novel.
 3. Explanation/commentary. How do my selected examples, details, and quotations support my topic sentence/opinion? (Answer the “so what?” factor)

 - C. Paragraph # 4: Main Idea 3
 1. Topic Sentence
 2. Support Sentences
 - a. Detail: Specific examples, details, and quotations from novel.
 3. Explanation/commentary. How do my selected examples, details, and quotations support my topic sentence/opinion? (Answer the “so what?” factor)

- III. Conclusion:
 - A. Paragraph #5: Restate and summarize thesis and main points.
 1. What did you learn?
 2. Final reflections and closing thoughts on the literature