

Name _____ Date: _____

Saint Gabriel School

Literature 8 – Critical Reading

To Kill a Mockingbird: Chapters 9 – 10

1. What external conflict introduces the ninth chapter? Describe the exchange between Scout and Atticus which results from this conflict. What does this exchange of ideas reveal about Atticus?
2. What does Scout mean when she says, “*Then Christmas came and disaster struck*”?
3. Describe Aunt Alexandra and Francis.
4. What does the reader learn about Dill from Francis? Since Aunt Alexandra is Francis’s source, what do these statements say about her?
5. What does Uncle Jack learn from Scout? What does their discussion reveal about the happenings at Finch landing?
6. What does the reader learn from Uncle Jack’s conversation with Atticus?
7. To what is Atticus referring when he says, “*I hope and pray I can get Jem and Scout through it without bitterness, and most of all, without catching Maycomb’s usual disease*”? For whom is the last part of this conversation intended?
8. What does the reader learn about the children and Atticus from Scout’s description of Atticus at the beginning of the tenth chapter?
9. What instructions does Atticus give to Jem concerning the use of his air rifle? How does Miss Maudie explain these instructions?
10. What does Scout learn about Atticus from Miss Maudie?
11. What do Jem and Scout see while hunting one Saturday afternoon?
12. Why does the conclusion of the tenth chapter provide a fitting contrast to its beginning? What does the reader learn about Atticus?
13. Explain the significance of the following statement: “*I think maybe he put his gun down when he realized that God had given him an unfair advantage over most things.*” How does Jem react to this new view of Atticus?