

Discussion Questions: I Kill the Mockingbird
Ch. 1-5

Daily Learning Target: Understand and be able to discuss the implications in our society today.

Directions: Support your ideas with specific examples from the text and real-life. Make sure you answer the, “Why?” question. Be ready to discuss your thoughts in a SS circle.

1. “Elena is certain that high school is going to swallow us up, spit us out, and crush us like bugs” (Acampora 2).
2. “...sometimes the world is a puzzle waiting for us to solve it. Other times it's a mystery to appreciate and accept. Right now I think my family, my friends-maybe even my whole life-are a whole lot of both” (Acampora 5).
3. “I have Mort...He gives me shelter. He gives me love. He gives me all the free books I can read. What part of the parenting thing am I missing?” (Acampora 7).
4. “Why do teachers think that shoving summer reading lists down our throats is a good idea?” (Acampora 7).
5. “'You've got to enjoy every sandwich.'” (Acampora 9).
6. “'Don't be afraid, Lucy... (Of) Anything. Everything. Be brave.'” (Acampora 9).
7. “'You might be thinking that you're already a good reader...It's not enough to know what all the words mean...A good reader starts to see what an entire book is trying to say. And then a good reader will have something to say in return. If you're reading well, you're having a conversation.'” (Acampora 10).
8. “'A book connects you to the universe like a cell phone connects you to the Internet...But it only works if your battery's not dead.'” (Acampora 10).

9. “ 'Saying what you mean is hard enough, Lucy. Then you go and add seven or twelve or fourteen extra syllables for no good reason. Pretty soon, we're back to the Tower of Babel..It's a little scary.' “ (Acampora 20).

10. “Elena does what she wants. I don't know how she manages it. In so many ways, she's had no control over her life...And yet she is so strong and funny and sure about things” (Acampora 25-6).

11. “ ' We will speak for the books.' 'Like the Lorax?' “ (Acampora 32).

12. “ 'My mom says that ignorance rarely stops anybody from doing anything. I guess she's right.' “ (Acampora 33).