

KEY STAGE 3 ASSESSMENT SHEET



Name: *gabriel dam*

Unit Title:	<b>NOVEL</b>		
Date:			
Core Targets :			
1. To structure each paragraph using PEA (Point, Evidence, Analysis), using QUOTATION as Evidence.	✓		
2. To explain how the author develops the themes within the novel.	✓		

**Student's Comment:**

1. I need to analysis some parts of the essay in more detail

2. I think I understand and have explained well the themes of the novel

*I have checked my spelling, punctuation and expression. Signed.....*

**Teacher's Comment:** *A good understanding of important themes. You show an understanding of the connection between the trial + the party.*

**TARGET :** *You need to... Analyse some ideas in more detail.*



# Just as Much Maycomb County as Missionary Teas

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus described the trial of Tom Robinson as 'just as much Maycomb County as missionary teas' because both the trial of Tom Robinson as well as the missionary tea party portrayed Maycomb's hypocrisy and racist attitude. Hypocrisy was as much a part of Maycomb's society as church and community spirit. The seemingly pious missionary circle held a double standard (to the) *phrasing* Mrunas, who were an African minority, and the black slaves in their community. Apparently, they took the missionary service as a social function rather than a genuine charity act. The trial of Tom Robinson revealed ~~flamboyantly~~ the stratification and racist behavior of the Maycomb community through the unfair trial in the courtroom.

*Use present tense to write about events in a novel*

Hypocrisy and white superiority was revealed in the missionary tea party. This was echoed by the trial scene. Harper Lee portrayed the hypocrisy of the Maycomb ladies in this scene brilliantly using vivid descriptions of their reactions to Mrunas: "Mrs. Merriweather's large brown eyes always filled up with tears when she considered the oppressed in Africa," They treated the party as a social function, where they could boast about their 'kindness' and 'righteousness'. The ladies in the missionary circle apparently devoted their time and energy to preach the gospel to the oppressed minority, like Mrunas. However, they did not have any sympathy to the oppressed Negroes who were serving them daily. "I tell you there's nothing more distracting than a sulky darky" Mrs. Merriweather thought black people in her community were a disgrace, and she didn't even raise an eyebrow at the killing of innocent black men.

*avoid analysis directly after a prominent*

Hypocrisy was also depicted in the trial scene. In the courtroom the judge is supposed to symbolize justice, and the presence of the jury is the make sure justice is served for the alleged and the accused. However, when Tom's employer, Mr. Link Deas, stood up and declared Tom had never been in trouble during his eight years of work; Judge Taylor furiously expelled Deas from the courtroom for interrupting. "Shut your mouth, sir!" Judge Taylor was wide awake and roaring ... "Link Deas," he yelled, "if you have anything you want to say you can say it under oath and at the proper time, but until then you get out of this room, you hear me? Get out of this room, sir, you hear me? I'll be damned if I'll listen to this case again!" "The handful of people in this town who say that fair play is not marked White Only; the handful of people who say a fair trial is for everybody, not just us; the handful of people with enough humility to think, when they look at a Negro, there but for the Lord's kindness am I." Miss Maudie's old crispness was returning: "The handful of people in this town with background, that's who they are." From the trial scene, we do not see any fairness being displayed. What we see is only racism against the Negroes. *Develop analysis in more detail*

Racism was a cornerstone of the novel. The rigid racial structure and social discrimination between the whites and the Negroes of Maycomb County had a profound effect on the events in the novel. The impact of this racial structure was especially evident in the trial of Tom Robinson. The extreme prejudice of the town eventually led to the unjust conviction of Robinson for a crime he did not commit. Bob Ewell was a prime example of 'White Trash'. He had a seething hatred for the Negroes and even though he was neither morally better nor more respectable than Tom Robinson, he was seen by the community as superior simply because he was a white man and, in their eyes, whites were better

Use a quotation  
in every  
paragraph

than blacks. It was obvious Bob Ewell is abusive to his daughter, Mayella, and that he was the one who violated her, not Tom Robinson. Since there was such hypocrisy in Maycomb, there were excuses made for whites. The jury probably thought that if they pronounce Tom innocent the citizens would mock them as they did to Atticus. Harper Lee used hypocrisy to show how the people of Maycomb were so engulfed in a variety of elements that they unknowingly completed acts of unjustified discrimination.

In the missionary circle, we can also see this white superiority. "If we just let them know we forgive 'em, that we've forgotten it, then this whole thing'll blow over." Although evidence has pointed out that Tom Robinson was innocent, he was convicted guilty. Finally, he was shot dead when he tried to escape. When news spread, people still commented that Tom's death was typical. "Typical of a nigger to cut and run. Typical of a nigger's mentality to have no plan, no thought for the future, just run blind first chance he saw." It was indeed the community of Maycomb who should seek forgiveness. However, they were 'blinded' by their racist attitude to overlook Tom's innocence and their own guilt.

Harper Lee skilfully related the trial scene with the missionary tea party. She explored the issue of hypocrisy and racism through the eyes of Scout, growing up in a world of controversies of the case of Tom Robinson. All these characters teach a moral lesson at some point. Towards the end of the novel, racism affected many individuals in Maycomb. Racism is basically the backbone of this novel and even justice can't overcome this.

By Gabriel Lam 952