

KEY STAGE 3 ASSESSMENT SHEET



Name: Jonathan.....

Unit Title:	NOVEL		
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 found it hard using the PEA structure.

2. I did well in analyzing Broo Radley

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

Teacher's Comment: Well written and interesting. You show a very good understanding of the narrator.

TARGET : You need to... write more about events in the conclusion of the novel.

In *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Harper Lee symbolizes Boo Radley as a Mockingbird. He is the Finch's mysterious and reclusive neighbour who is misunderstood by the people of Maycomb County. Harper Lee uses a child's point of view to tell the story about hypocrisy and prejudices of the adults in Maycomb. Through Scout's narration and her description Boo Radley readers are able to learn that people or matters are not always what they seemed on the surface and also to see prejudice at work and how these affect people's lives. In the end, this "Mockingbird" was forced to kill. Is he evil as he has been described to be or there are those far more evil?

From the very beginning of the novel, Harper Lee wanted us to form a picture of Boo Radley, through Jem and Scout's descriptions, that he was a mentally ill monster who stabbed his father coldheartedly and ate raw squirrels and cats. Boo was described as an 'unknown entity' and a 'malevolent phantom'. The children had never seen him but through what they hear from people in Maycomb, they manage to form a very sinister picture of Boo. For example, 'people said he went out at night when the moon was down, and peeped in windows. When people's azaleas froze in a cold snap, it was because he had breathed on them. 'Any stealthy small crimes committed in Maycomb were his work.' We can see that people's prejudices against him are so deep that even crimes for which a culprit has been caught are still blamed on Boo, as people are just 'unwilling to discard their initial suspicions.' The language and descriptions used were aimed to create a most evil and sinister picture of Boo Radley. As we have seen, he was said to be a 'malevolent phantom', the use of the word phantom creates dark and cold connotations about Boo as he is compared to a ghost. The examples given throughout Scout's narration clearly showed people's prejudices as their accusations of Boo borders almost on the ridiculous, such as 'people's azaleas froze in a cold snap,' because Boo 'had breathed on them,' where the diction of the words 'froze' and 'cold' further emphasize Boo's eerie presence as he sucks the life out of nature and everything else around him, and even things they have no evidence of such as 'Any stealthy small crimes committed in Maycomb were his work.' All these showed how people's prejudices worked to harm an individual, causing even a child to describe that individual whom he or she had not seen as a crazed monster who 'dined on raw squirrels and any cats he could catch,' and having a hideous appearance with 'a long jagged scar that ran across his face; what teeth he had were yellow and rotten; his eyes popped, and he drooled most of the time.'

To contradict the above image of Boo Radley, the author provided clues that Boo was in fact a gentle soul, despite his troubled past and tragic treatment by his family. Gestures such as leaving sticks of gum and later, old coins in the Radley yard tree's knothole for Scout and Jem; and then mending Jem's pants which he was forced to leave behind when he was nearly caught trying to get a glimpse of Boo in his house. Here, Scout and Jem come to realize again that appearances are not always what they seem. They know that someone is deliberately leaving gifts for them in the knothole, but they failed to understand why the giver refused to make himself known, so much so that Jem commented that his pants "were folded across the fence...like they were expectin' me." Far from the sinister recluse he was made out to be, Boo became the children's savior as he rescued them from an attack by Bob Ewell who was seeking revenge on their father, Atticus. In the novel, Harper Lee portrays Boo

Radley and Tom Robinson as the mockingbird in the novel's title. She used foreshadowing to hint at this fact by having Scout and Jem remark "in the darkness a solitary mocker poured out his repertoire in blissful unawareness" near the Radley house. The 'solitary mocker' is Boo Radley who in the end saved both the children from death. Finally and to her surprise, Scout is able to see for herself that Boo is in fact a nice and gentle man and not at all the monster she imagined.

In the end, the, the bad or evil person is in fact the good but people's prejudices can easily cloud their judgment and cause injustices. In this novel, however, justice and compassion Finally reign over colour and human prejudices.

