**Passage Analysis Practice--Atticus’ closing argument Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions: Read the passage and answer the Test Prep questions that follow. You may have to go back to the passage and re-read.**

(1)“Her father saw it, and the defendant has testified as to his remarks. What did her father do? We don’t know, but there is circumstantial evidence to indicate that Mayella Ewell was beaten savagely by someone who led almost exclusively with his left. We do know in part what Mr. Ewell did: he did what any God-fearing, persevering, respectable white man would do under the circumstances—he swore out a warrant, no doubt

(5)signing it with his left hand, and Tom Robinson now sits before you, having taken the oath with the only good hand he possesses—his right hand.

**“And so a quiet, respectable, humble Negro who had the unmitigated temerity to ‘feel sorry’ for a white woman has had to put his word against two white people’s.** I need not remind you of their appearance and conduct on the stand—you saw them for yourselves. The witnesses for the state, with the exception of the sheriff of Maycomb

(10)County, have  presented themselves to you gentlemen, to this court, in the cynical confidence that their testimony would not be doubted, confident that you gentlemen would go along with them on the assumption—the evil assumption—that all Negroes lie, that all Negroes are basically immoral beings, that all Negro men are not to be trusted around our women, an assumption one associates with minds of their caliber.

**...There is not a person in this courtroom who has never told a lie, who has never done an immoral thing, and**

**(15) there is no man living who has never looked upon a woman without desire.”**  ...“One more thing, gentlemen, before I quit. Thomas Jefferson once said that all men are created equal...—because all men are created equal, educators will gravely tell you, the children left behind suffer terrible feelings of inferiority. We know all men are not created equal in the sense some people would have us believe—some people are smarter than others, some people have more opportunity because they’re born with it, some men make more money than others, some

(20)ladies make better cakes than others—some people are born gifted beyond the normal scope of most men.  “But there is one way in this country in which all men are created equal—there is one human institution that makes a pauper [very poor person] the equal of a Rockefeller, the stupid man the equal of an Einstein, and the ignorant man the equal of any college president. That institution, gentlemen, is a court...Our courts have their faults, as does any human institution, but in this country our courts are the great levelers, and in our courts all men

(25)are created equal. “I’m no idealist to believe firmly in the **integrity** of our courts and in the jury system—that is no ideal to me, it is a living, working reality. Gentlemen, a court is no better than each man of you sitting before me on this jury. A court is only as sound as its jury, and a jury is only as sound as the men who make it up. I am confident that you gentlemen will review without passion the evidence you have heard, come to a decision, and restore this defendant to his family. In the name of God, do your duty.”

**DIRECTIONS: Choose the best response to the following questions.**

1. To establish the authority (ethos) of the court system, Atticus

1. summarizes Mayella and Bob Ewell’s testimonies
2. refers to the social hierarchy system in Maycomb
3. references Thomas Jefferson’s words about equality
4. compares and contrasts different types of people

2.  As used in line 28, “***integrity***” most nearly means

1. instructions
2. laws
3. practices
4. morals

3.  Lines 7-8 primarily serve to:

1. make the jury feel sorry for Tom.
2. reinforce Tom’s good reputation.
3. state facts as opposed to opinions.

D. provide a logical argument as to why Tom is innocent.

4. Atticus uses lines 14-15 to appeal to :

1. Credibility (ethos)
2. Emotion (pathos)
3. Logical thinking (logos)

5. Which quoted line best shows Atticus making an appeal to the jury’s credibility?

1. “All men are created equal. . .a Rockefeller, the stupid man equal of an Einstein”
2. “Our courts have their faults, as does any human institution. . .”
3. “Gentlemen, a court is no better than each man of you. . . “
4. “For the love of God, do your duty”

Chapter 13 Passage 2

**1.** Before bed time I was in Jem’s room trying to borrow a book, when Atticus knocked and entered. He sat on the side of Jem’s bed, looked at us soberly, then he grinned. “Er-h’rm,” he said. He was beginning to preface some things he said with a throaty noise, and I thought he must at last be getting old, but he looked the same. “I don’t exactly know how to say this,” he began “Well, just say it,” said Jem. “Have we done something?” Our father was actually fidgeting “No, I just want to explain to you that your Aunt Alexandra asked me… son, you know you’re a Finch, don’t you?” “That’s what I’ve been told.” Jem looked out of the corners of his eyes. His voice rose uncontrollably. “Atticus, what’s the matter?”

**2.** Atticus folded his knees and crossed his arms. “I’m trying to tell you the facts of life.” Jem’s disgust deepened. “I know all that stuff,” he said. Atticus grew suddenly serious. In his lawyer’s voice, without a shade of inflection, he said, “Your aunt has asked me to try to impress upon you and Jean Louise that you are not from **run-of-the-mill** people, that you are the product of several generations’ gentle breeding—“ Atticus paused, watching me locate an elusive red bug on my leg. “Gentle breeding,” he continued, when I found and scratched it, “and that you should try to live up to your name—“ Atticus **persevered** in spite of us: “She asked me to tell you that you must try to behave like the little lady and little gentleman that you are. She wants to talk to you about the Maycomb family and what it’s meant to the county through the years, so you’ll have an idea of who you are, so you might be moved to behave accordingly,” he concluded at a gallop.

**3.** Stunned, Jem and I looked at each other, then at Atticus, whose collar seemed to worry him. We did not speak to him. Presently I picked up a comb from Jem's dresser and ran its teeth along the edge. "Stop that noise," Atticus said. His curtness stung me. The comb was midway in its journey, and I banged it down. For no reason I felt myself beginning to cry, but I could not stop. This was not my father. My father never thought these thoughts. My father never spoke so. Aunt Alexandra had put him up to this, somehow**. Through my tears I saw Jem standing in a similar pool of isolation, his head cocked to one side.** There was nowhere to go, but I turned to go and met Atticus's vest front. I buried my head in it and listened to the small internal noises that went on behind the light blue cloth: his watch ticking, the faint crackle of his starched shirt, the soft sound of his breathing. **4."**Your stomach's growling," I said. "I know it," he said. "You better take some soda." "I will," he said. "Atticus, is all this behavin' an' stuff gonna make things different? I mean are you-?" I felt his hand on the back of my head. "Don't you worry about anything," he said. "It's not time to worry." When I heard that, I knew he had come back to us. The blood in my legs began to flow again, and I raised my head. "You really want us to do all that? I can't remember everything Finches are supposed to do...." "I don't want you to remember it. Forget it."  
**5.** He went to the door and out of the room, shutting the door behind him. He nearly slammed it, but caught himself at the last minute and closed it softly. As Jem and I stared, the door opened again and Atticus peered around. His eyebrows were raised, his glasses had slipped. "Get more like Cousin Joshua every day, don't I? Do you think I'll end up costing the family five hundred dollars?" I know now what he was trying to do, but Atticus was only a man. It takes a woman to do that kind of work.

**Choose the BEST answers. Highlight/underline areas of the passage that helped you make your choices.**

1. The thematic idea (motif) the passage BEST connects to is
2. racism b. courage c. innocence d. stereotypes
3. The chunk that BEST supports the answer to the prior question is
4. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4 e. 5
5. The BEST meaning of **run-of-the-mill** as used in chunk 2 is
6. average b. low class c. middle class d. high class
7. The BEST meaning of **persevered** as used in chunk 2 is
8. stopped b. paused c. continued d. gave in
9. The **bolded line** in chunk 3 uses a metaphor. What is Lee’s purpose in using this technique to describe the children’s reaction to Atticus’ behavior?
10. To create a man vs himself conflict
11. To deepen the mood of confusion
12. To develop the theme of moral courage
13. To explain that Jem understood what was happening.
14. How does the TONE shift from chunks 2 & 3 to chunk 5?
15. From hopeful to suspenseful
16. From serious to angry
17. From tense to humorous
18. From happy to sad

ANSWERS

* + - 1. C
      2. D
      3. B
      4. C
      5. C

ANSWERS

Passage 2 1.D

2. B

3. B

4. C

5. B

6. C