

To Kill a Mockingbird **Exploring Characters and Lee's Exposition**

In this activity, we will look at what life was like in the south at the time *To Kill a Mockingbird* takes place. You will be divided into four groups and given a topic to research in class. Then, you will create a presentation to teach the class about your topic. As a group, you will then present your findings in a five minute presentation.

The Groups:

The Men: Atticus Finch, Boo Radley, Tom Robinson

Research: You should research the Scottsboro Trial and be able to provide an overview of the trial and challenges of seeking justice in a heightened racial atmosphere.

The Children: Scout, Jem, and Dill

Research: You should focus on and understand the expectations of children with the setting of the south during the 1930s.

The Women: Calpurnia, Aunt Alexandra, Miss. Stephanie, Mrs. Dubose

Research: You should examine the lives of White and African American Women: Based on your reading and research, you should be able to provide an overview about a day in the life of an African American woman and a White woman.

The Setting: Understand the Post Civil War, Jim Crow South, and the impact of the Great Depression

Research: You should examine the Emmet Till case and Jim Crow laws in order to understand the pervasive and ignorant nature of racism during the time period.

In each group, you will:

- _____ Use essential quotes and textual evidence to describe the characters/setting. These MUST be cited in MLA format. You need a minimum of 3 quotes.
- _____ Research historical information relevant to understanding the characters and setting.
- _____ Create a presentation that *creatively* presents the information you have put together based on research of your topic. Please submit your presentation in Google Classroom on _____.
- _____ Provide a brief, five minute presentation of your group's topic and information. This should be planned and rehearsed. Each person must have an *active* role in the presentation.

You will have three days in class to work on this. **The presentations will take place on Tuesday, March 10th.**

Resources

These are resources that have been checked for reliability. They are intended to be used as a starting point. You will also need to research other aspects of your topic online, in books/newspapers/magazines, or from other sources. Make sure you give a well-rounded and accurate presentation.

Scottsboro Trials:

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/scottsboro/index.html>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/12111/scottsboro/scottsbo.htm>

<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/scottsboro/scottsb.htm>

Growing up in the 1930s

<http://library.thinkquest.org/12111/girl.html>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/12111/mculley.html>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/J002606/1930s.html>

Women in the 1930s

<https://canvas.santarosa.edu/courses/24761/pages/women-in-the-1930s-and-1940s>

Jim Crow Laws

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/jimcrow/>

<http://americanradioworks.publicradio.org/features/remembering/>

Emmet Till

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/till/>