*To Kill a Mockingbird* Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Reading Check - Chapter 12

1. True or False? As a 12 year old, Jem is moody and temperamental. Scout tries to give him plenty of space and, as a result, they grow apart.

2.  What prank did Scout and Jem play years ago that made Calpurnia decide that they should not go to their own church with Atticus out of town?

A. they put glue on the teacher’s chair

B. they tied up a classmate in the furnace room

C. they flooded the classroom while re-enacting the story of Noah’s ark.

D. none of these

E. all of these

3.  Calpurnia took the children to First Purchase Church with her where they are

welcomed by most everyone. One person who is ugly to them is

A. Reverend Sykes

B. Zeebo

C. Lula

D. Helen Robinson

E. none of these

4.  True or False? Zeebo is Calpurnia’s son and the song leader at church. He is also the

garbage collector who picked up the rabid dog that Atticus shot in Chapter 10.

5.  True or False? Linin’ is how the congregation sings. The leader sings one line and

the congregation sings it back. Most people in the church cannot read.

6. Who needs help from the church because she is unable to find work and needs to

support her family while her husband is in jail?

A. Lula

B. Eula May

C. Helen

D. none of these

7.  What did the minister do to get more money for the collection?

A. He ordered the door locked and said he wouldn’t open it until he had $10.

B. He gently and politely asked everyone to give an extra dime.

C. He reminded them of the story of the Good Samaritan.

D. He delivered a fiery speech about hell to make everyone fearful.

8.  Scout was surprised that Calpurnia spoke two "languages."   
      How did Calpurnia explain it to her?

True or False? Calpurnia usually speaks white English except when she is at

church. That way she doesn’t look high and mighty in front of her friends and

they can understand her.

9. What do Scout and Jem learn about racism at church?

True or False? Scout and Jem learn that racism goes both ways. They are judged

by their skin color first and foremost. They are resented by the black congregation

because they are white.

10.  Who is waiting on the front porch when they get home?

A. Uncle Jack

B. Aunt Alexandra

C. Atticus

D. Miss Maudie

**Chapter 12**

Jem is growing up and becoming moody and temperamental. Scout tries to give him his space, and looks forward to Dill coming in the summer. Unfortunately Dill doesn't arrive that summer - he writes to explain that he has a new father and has to stay in Meridian. To make matters worse, Atticus has to leave for two weeks for an emergency session with the state legislature. Instead of letting the children go to church unattended that Sunday, Calpurnia takes them to the First Purchase African M.E. church, an all-black congregation. Calpurnia takes special pains to make sure they are cleanly-scrubbed and as perfectly dressed as possible on Sunday.

At the church, a black woman named Lula tries to tell Calpurnia that white children don't belong at the church. However, Calpurnia points out that it's the same God, and the rest of the congregation welcomes the newcomers. Scout is surprised to hear Calpurnia speak in the same black dialect as the others, because at home, Calpurnia always speaks proper English. Inside the church, everything is much simpler than in the church she is used to, and there are no hymnbooks. [Reverend Sykes](http://www.gradesaver.com/character.html?character=34457) announces that the collection taken up today will go to Helen, the wife of Tom Robinson. Calpurnia's son Zeebo, the town's trash collector, leads the congregation in hymns, singing each line and having the group repeat it back to him. Reverend Sykes gives a sermon, which seems similar to the sermons Scout is used to, except that he makes examples of particular people in the congregation to illustrate his points. After collection time, the Reverend counts the money collected and announces that they must raise ten dollars to give to [Helen Robinson](http://www.gradesaver.com/character.html?character=34471). He orders for the doors to be closed until everyone gives more.

After the service, Scout asks Reverend Sykes why Helen needs the collection money when she can still go to work and take her children with her. Reverend Sykes explains that she may have trouble getting any work in the fields now. Scout asks Calpurnia about this, and Calpurnia explains that it's because Tom has been accused of raping [Bob Ewell](http://www.gradesaver.com/character.html?character=34451)'s daughter. Mr. Ewell had Tom arrested and put in jail. Scout remembers that the Ewells are the ones who only come to school once a year, and are what Atticus calls "absolute trash." Calpurnia won't tell her what rape is.

Scout then asks her why they don't have hymnbooks at her church, and Calpurnia explains that only a few people at the church can read. Scout also learns that Calpurnia used to work at the Landing for Miss Maudie's aunt, Miss Buford, who taught her to read. Jem asks Calpurnia why she doesn't speak with proper grammar around black people, and Calpurnia explains that it would be out of place, and that she would look pretentious. The others don't want to learn to speak the "right" way, she says, so she speaks their language. Scout asks if she can come over to Calpurnia's house sometimes to see how she lives at her own home, and Calpurnia says yes. When they arrive home, they discover Aunt Alexandra sitting on their porch.