

Name _____

Meet the Residents of Maycomb: Character Roles in 'To Kill a Mockingbird'

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Mayella Ewell's role in the novel highlights the impact of poverty and ignorance on the residents of Maycomb. Her actions, including accusing Tom Robinson falsely, contribute to the themes of racism and injustice.
2. Answers may vary, but some readers might argue that Jem undergoes the most significant transformation as he experiences the loss of innocence and learns important life lessons. His role is crucial in illustrating the novel's message of empathy and justice.
3. Bob Ewell's role symbolizes hatred and ignorance, as seen in his racist beliefs and abusive behavior. His actions, including the false accusation against Tom Robinson and the attack on Scout and Jem, exemplify these negative qualities.
4. Boo Radley's role challenges stereotypes and prejudices by revealing his true nature as a kind and compassionate person. His character represents the idea that appearances can be deceiving and that people should not be judged solely on their outward behavior.

