



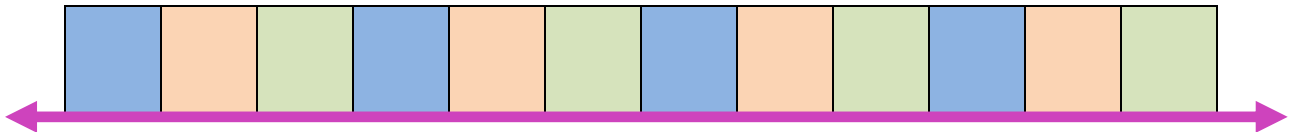
To Kill a Mockingbird A Thread of Plot Events

First, arrange these twelve events into chronological order by writing the letter of each event on the timeline.

Then circle the two events you consider the most important and explain your choices in the box below. Finally, answer this question: *What is one of the threads that connects and runs through these events?*

Events:

- A. Atticus kills a rabid dog.
- B. Aunt Alexandra comes to stay.
- C. Bob Ewell spits on Atticus.
- D. Boo Radley saves the children's lives.
- E. Jem loses his pants at the Radleys'.
- F. Jem reads to Mrs. Dubose.
- G. Mayella Ewell testifies on the witness stand.
- H. Miss Maudie's house burns down.
- I. Scout fights with Francis.
- J. Scout talks to Mr. Cunningham at the jail.
- K. Someone fills the knothole with cement.
- L. Tom Robinson is killed.



I circled events ____ and ____ because:

What is one of the threads that connects and runs through these events?

RL.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Answer Key

Events:

- A. Atticus kills a rabid dog. (5)
- B. Aunt Alexandra comes to stay. (7)
- C. Bob Ewell spits on Atticus. (11)
- D. Boo Radley saves the children's lives. (12)
- E. Jem loses his pants at the Radleys'. (1)
- F. Jem reads to Mrs. Dubose. (6)
- G. Mayella Ewell testifies on the witness stand. (9)
- H. Miss Maudie's house burns down. (3)
- I. Scout fights with Francis. (4)
- J. Scout talks to Mr. Cunningham at the jail. (8)
- K. Someone fills the knothole with cement. (2)
- L. Tom Robinson is killed. (10)

Sample answer:

I circled J and L because I think the scene between Scout and Mr. Cunningham at the jail suggests hope that the community (and jury) will do the right thing, but they don't. When Tom Robinson is killed trying to escape, it kills the hope that things might be different this time around.

What is one of the threads that connects and runs through these events?

Students can name the thread in many different ways: prejudice, justice, strength, power, truth, friendship growing up, social consciousness. Ask them to support their choice with examples and evidence.