

# **To Kill A Mockingbird \***

## **Point of View - Trial**

**Very often, different people view the same event in different ways. If your team had just won a state championship, you would probably describe the game differently than someone would from the losing team. Two drivers involved in an auto accident would have different perspectives about what had caused the accident.**

**How people see an event and what they think about it is called *point of view*.**

**Writing Topic: Select the role of someone who was involved with or someone who observed Tom Robinson's trial. Write an account of the trial from that person's point of view.**

- **a member of the black community sitting in the balcony**
- **a member of the jury who believed that Tom was innocent but was afraid to go against the other members of the jury**
- **a newspaper reporter from New York who was covering the trial**
- **Judge Taylor in his later years writing his memoirs**
- **Reverend Sykes**
- **Atticus writing in his journal**
- **Miss Maudie Atkinson**
- **Aunt Alexander**
- **Bob Ewell**
- **Mayella Ewell**
- **Tom Robinson**

**Make sure that what you write is consistent with the character whose point of view you have assumed.**

**Title:**

**An Account of Tom Robinson's Trial -  
from the Point of View of \_\_\_\_\_**

**\*\*\* Don't forget to put *your* name somewhere on the paper.**

# **A Sermon by Rev. Sykes**

by Brad D. (2/98)

## ***An Account of Tom Robinson's Trial from the Point of View of Reverend Sykes***

**My brother and sisters, it is a dark day for Maycomb County. Some of us knew Tom was going to lose, but we still had hope. As one of my sisters once said, "Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, and faith looks up." So my friends, we must look up. Tom knows, and we know, Tom did not commit this sinful crime. I look at the Ewells with pity. As Tom said in court, "I felt sorry for her." These aren't the words of a hate filled angry man; these are the words of a wonderful God-loving man. Whites think it is appalling for any Negro man to feel sorry for any white human being no matter how low in social status. I think it is the mark of a deeply caring man.**

**Tom, we want to thank you for being so strong throughout this terrible time. We must stand together and say what happened in court is wrong. We must stand together and support Tom's wife and three small children. Finally, we must thank Mr. Atticus Finch for defending Tom. Atticus Finch is a good and decent man. We must pray together that his appeal on Tom's behalf will finally be heard in the halls of justice.**