Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Exploring Stereotypes in TKM**

**Directions:** On the chart below, write common stereotypes (believed by most citizens of Maycomb) associated with each person/group in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In the final column, write instances from the novel that demonstrate how each person/group broke all or part of the stereotype.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Stereotypes** | **Examples – breaking stereotype** |
| Women |  |  |
| Boo Radley |  |  |
| Black people |  |  |
| White trash |  |  |
| High class/“rich” people |  |  |
| Teachers |  |  |

**Exploring Stereotypes in TKM – ANSWER KEY**

**Directions:** On the chart below, write common stereotypes (believed by most citizens of Maycomb) associated with each person/group in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In the final column, write instances from the novel that demonstrate how each person/group broke all or part of the stereotype.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Stereotypes** | **Examples – breaking stereotype** |
| Women | Lady-like; polite/well-mannered; homemakers; subservient to men; silent on political/social issues and weak-willed; delicate | Miss Maudie and Calpurnia: both are strong-willed and outspoken. Miss Maudie tells Scout she wants to vote. Calpurnia is educated; she is the female influence in the Finch house |
| Boo Radley | “malevolent phantom” accused of peeping in windows, killing/eating small animals, stabbing his father | Places the blanket around Scout; stitches and folds Jem’s pants; leaves “gifts” in the knot-hole; saves kids |
| Black people | Untrustworthy, lying, low-class, ignorant/stupid, without feelings | Tom and Calpurnia. Tom: good father, hard worker, helps Mayella, loves wife/kids. Cal: educated, moral, caring, lady-like. |
| White trash | Low-class, ignorant, dirty, worthless, racist; dependent on government handouts. | Mayella: tries to keep clean, grows geraniums, isn’t racist. Cunninghams: won’t accept help/handouts. |
| High class/“rich” people | “Good” Christian people with high morals | Miss Stephanie: cruel gossip; Mrs. Dubose: racist; Aunt Alexandra: racist, un-Christian, hypocritical |
| Teachers | Educated, high-class, moralistic, patient, kind, empathetic, encourages kids to learn. | Miss Caroline: tells Scout not to read anymore. Miss Gates: believes it’s hypocritical to persecute Jews, but thinks the verdict for Tom was fair and right. Scout is always bored in school and doesn’t feel challenged. |