*To Kill A Mockingbird* Vocabulary

Words are listed in the order in which they appear in the novel. The numbers in parenthesis indicate the chapters in which the words appear.

Chapters 1-3

assuaged (1) ­– eased

piety (1) – religious devotion

entity (1) – a being

vapid (1) – flat; uninteresting

nebulous (1) – unclear; vague

illicitly (2) – illegally

sojourn (2) – temporary stay

persevere (3) – persist

contemptuous (3) – scornful

contentious (3) – argumentative;

quarrelsome

Chapters 4-6

auspicious (4) – favorable; fortunate

tyranny (4) – cruel dictatorship

gingerly (4) – cautiously

benign (5) – kind; merciful

morbid (5) – gruesome; grisly

placidly (5) – calmly; quietly

inquisitive (5) – curious; nosy

ensuing (6) – resulting

prowess (6) – skill

malignant (6) – evil; wicked

Chapters 7-9

ascertaining (7) – determining

vigil (7) – careful watch

aberrations (8) – irregularities

perpetrated (8)– caused or committed

caricatures (8) – mocking drawings or

 imitations, usually of a person

adjacent (8) – nearby; neighboring

ingenuous (9) – simple; unsophisticated;

 childlike

siblings (9) –brothers and sisters

provocation (9) – reason for action;

 harassment

tentatively (9) – hesitantly; uncertainly

Chapters 10-12

attributes (10) – characteristics; features

rudiments (10) – basics; fundamentals

vehemently (10) – rigorously; fiercely

interrogation (11) –close questioning

rectitude (11) – goodness; virtue

reconnaissance (11) – survey;

examination

devoid (11) – empty; without;

completely lacking

ecclesiastical (12) – having to do with

church matters

subdued (12) – tamed; quieted;

restrained

austere (12) – severe; stern; harsh

Chapters 13-15

formidable (13) – inspiring wonder, fear,

or dread

prerogative (13) – right; privilege

obliquely (13) – indirectly; in a

roundabout way

caste (13) – class division based on

differences in wealth, rank or job

elusive (13) – not easily found or

understood

edification (14) – act of improving or

learning

invoke (14) – summon up; call upon

ominous (15) – threatening

criteria (15) – standards or measures by

which something can be judged

affliction (15) – distress; pain;

misfortune

Chapters 16-18

conceded (16) – acknowledged; admitted

elucidate (16) – explain; shed light on

terse (17) – brief; concise

amiably (17) – agreeably; in a friendly

way

indigenous (17) –native; naturally

occurring

acrimonious (17) – bitter; angry

tenet (17) – belief; principle

stealthy (18) – cunning; sneaky

irrelevant (18) –unrelated; off the topic

articulate (18) – well-spoken

Chapters 19-22

expunge (19) – erase; blot out

candid (19) – honest; open; sincere

impudent (19) – ill-mannered; bold; rude

discreet (20) – cautious; restrained

corroborative (20) – supportive;

upholding

indicted (20) – accused; charged

iota (20) – tiny bit

tacit (21) – expressed without using

words

cynical (22) – suspicious; distrustful

fatalistic (22) – accepting; resigned to

the inevitable

Chapters 23-26

obscure (23) – unknown or unimportant

wryly (23) – ironically; cynically

furtive (23) – secret; undercover; sly

adamant (23) – rigid; inflexible

sordid (23) – dirty; shameful; disgraceful

apprehension (24) – fear; anxiety

impertinence (24) – boldness; rudeness

squalor (24) – poverty; wretchedness

veneer (25) – mask; cover; outward

display

recluse (25) – hermit; loner

Chapters 27-31

nondescript (27) – hard to describe or

categorize

purloined (27) –stolen

incantations (28) – magic spells; chants

teeming (28) –brimming; swarming

subordinates (28) – persons of lower

position or power

primeval (28) – ancient; prehistoric

garishly (29) – in a showy, gaudy way

connived (30) – deliberately overlooked;

excused

competent (30) – capable; qualified

acquiescence (31) – consent; agreement