FOOD in To Kill a Mockingbird

LESSON PLAN

by William Christy Smith

design and layout by Virginia Howard

Southern Food and Beverage Museum
New Orleans, Louisiana
FOREWORD

If you’re a fan of Southern literature, you know that one of the many definitions of the genre is the inclusion of its special foods and the culinary talents of the characters who cook and eat them.

*To Kill a Mockingbird* is a classic example of a great Southern novel filled with culinary information.

The book includes more than 50 references to food – many that are symbols of the American South. Where else would you find Lane Cake, scuppernongs and pickled pig’s knuckles? These foods help set the tone of the novel and establish a mood and place.

Harper Lee created scenes in which the presence of food and meals make important points and moves the plot forward. In the beginning of the book, a famous scene occurs in which Scout makes fun of Walter Cunningham for covering his lunch in molasses. She is hauled off to the kitchen, where she is severely scolded by Calpurnia, who lets her know the rules regarding how to treat company. At the end of the book, an emotional scene occurs when Atticus surveys the food left at his doorstep after the trial. Both scenes use food to illustrate the concept of equality.

Food also is used to illustrate the concept of social justice. People with means eat food that is balanced and nutritious; people without means eat what they can afford, and sometimes it is lacking in nutritional quality. Sometimes they go without food, or sometimes they hunt in order to eat.

All of these issues are explored in this Lesson Plan for Teachers. We prepared it for you as we would have cooked up a great Southern feast – with a desire to satisfy your appetite.

— William Christy Smith

October 2008
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**Food in To Kill a Mockingbird**

The following foods, food items or drinks are mentioned in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Other foods are mentioned in a more generic manner, such as “sandwiches,” “three kinds of meat,” “two kinds of cake,” “hock of the ham,” etc.

There is also a reference early in the book to “chocolate malted mice,” which are not for people at all. They are part of a story read to the class by Miss Caroline in which Mrs. Cat calls the drugstore to place an order for chocolate malted mice.

There also are two references to medicines: calomel, taken orally as a purgative, and asafoetida, a pungent herb that was typically worn in a sack around the neck to ward off illness.

Three products are mentioned by brand name: Coca-Cola; Nehi Cola; and Tootsie Rolls.

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**List of foods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Item</th>
<th>Brand Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ice, wheat and flour</td>
<td>Chicken</td>
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<td>Collard patch, row of collards</td>
<td>Fried pork chops</td>
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<td>Crackling bread</td>
<td>Coca cola</td>
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<td>Hickory nuts</td>
<td>Sardines</td>
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<td>Crackers</td>
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<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>Nehi Cola</td>
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<td>Scuppernongs</td>
<td>Bacon</td>
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<td>Fried chicken</td>
<td>Squirrel</td>
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<td>Lemonade</td>
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<td>Rabbit</td>
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<td>Pecans</td>
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<td>Ham</td>
<td>Salt pork</td>
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<td>Rolls</td>
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<td>Ambrosia</td>
<td>Tomatoes</td>
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<td>Biscuits and butter</td>
<td>Pickled pigs’ knuckles</td>
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<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Tootsie Rolls</td>
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<td>Cherry wine</td>
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<td>Whiskey</td>
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<td>Eggs</td>
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<td>Biscuit and syrup</td>
<td>Angel food cake</td>
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Quotes about food or drink in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

“He didn’t have any lunch.” (Scout to Miss Caroline, referring to Walter Cunningham)

“Come on home to dinner with us, Walter. We’d be glad to have you.” (Jem)

“If you can’t act fit to eat at the table, you can just set here and eat in the kitchen!” (Calpurnia to Scout)

“So you just come right on in the kitchen when you feel lonesome. We’ll find lots of things to do in here.” (Calpurnia to Scout)

“Soon as I can get my hands clean and when Stephanie Crawford’s not looking, I’ll make him a Lane Cake. That Stephanie’s been after my recipe for thirty years, and if she thinks I’ll give it to her just because I’m staying with her she’s got another think coming.” (Miss Maudie)

“Sometimes the Bible in the hand of one man is worse than a whiskey bottle in the hand of another.” (Miss Maudie to Scout and Jem)

“We’re asking him real politely to come out sometimes, and tell us what he does in there – we said we wouldn’t hurt him and we’d buy him an ice cream.” (Dill)

“Grandma says all men should learn to cook, that men oughta be careful with their wives and wait on ’em when they don’t feel good.” (Cousin Francis)

“Boys don’t cook.” (Scout to Francis)

“Second thing you can do is stay away from my cook or I’ll have you up for assault.” (Link Deas to Bob Ewell)

“Your fat streaks are showin’.” (Jem to Scout, referring to the white lines in her Halloween costume)

“They don’t eat up people’s gardens, don’t nest in corncribs.” (Miss Maudie to Jem and Scout about mockingbirds)
To Kill a Mockingbird Quiz Questions

1. Early in the book, we find out that whenever Scout is bored, Calpurnia sits her down and has her write a chapter of the Bible in a tablet. If Calpurnia approves, she rewards her with which of the following:
   A. A peanut butter and jelly sandwich
   B. An open-faced sandwich of bread and butter and sugar
   C. A peanut butter and marshmallow fluff sandwich
   D. A lettuce and sardine sandwich

2. Scout has it rough on her first day at school. When she gets home, what does Calpurnia make to comfort her?
   A. Chocolate mousse
   B. Chocolate pie
   C. Banana bread
   D. Crackling bread

3. What is crackling bread made from?
   A. Cornflakes, sugar and milk
   B. Salt pork, cornmeal, eggs, buttermilk
   C. Lard, flour, sugar and skim milk
   D. Whole wheat flour, powdered sugar, blueberries

4. Calpurnia gives Scout a “stinging smack” at the dinner table when she and Jem bring Walter Cunningham home from school for lunch. Why did she do this?
   A. Scout forgets to say a prayer before eating.
   B. Jem pours molasses over his food and Scout makes rude comments.
   C. Walter pours molasses over his food and Scout makes rude comments.
   D. Walter and Jem use all the molasses and that makes Scout mad.

5. There are several references in the book to “collards,” “collard greens,” and a “collard patch.” What are these things?
   A. Coarse leaves of the kale plant that are cooked as a vegetable.
   B. Smooth leaves of the spinach plant.
   C. The roots of watermelon plant that are boiled like potatoes.
   D. The very outside leaves of the cabbage plant.

6. One of the reasons that Jem, Scout and Dill fear Boo Radley is because they believe he ate something that made his hands bloodstained. What was it?
   A. Worms
   B. Oysters, which is opened with his mouth, which caused bleeding.
   C. Raccoons and puppy dogs
   D. Raw squirrels and any cats he could catch.

7. Scout finds several items left for her in the knothole of an old tree. What’s the first one?
   A. An old pocket watch
   B. Chewing gum
   C. Tootsie Rolls
   D. A pecan pie
What is a scuppernong?

A scuppernong is a large type of grape that is native to the Southeastern United States. It’s named after the Scuppernong River in North Carolina, where it was originally cultivated in the 17th century. The scuppernong is the state fruit of North Carolina.

The earliest written account of the scuppernong occurs in the logbook of Giovanni de Verrazzano, a Florentine navigator who explored the Cape Fear River Valley for France in 1524. In 1584, Sir Walter Raleigh’s explorers wrote that the coast of North Carolina was “so full of grapes as the very beating and surge of the sea overflowed them . . . in all the world, the like abundance is not to be found.”

The scuppernong is a member of the muscadine family of grapes. When ripe, it has a greenish or bronze color. The grape has four parts: the outer skin; the pulp or “meat”; the seeds; and juice. The skin is very thick and tart. The pulp is sweet. Each grape has several small green seeds. The most desired part of the scuppernong is the sweet juice that lies underneath its skin.

Scuppernong grapes contain roughly 95-100 calories per cup. Scuppernongs are high in vitamin C and contain potassium, vitamin B, and trace minerals. They are low in sodium and have no fat and cholesterol.

Besides *To Kill a Mockingbird*, scuppernongs figure prominently in William Faulkner’s novel *Absalom, Absalom!*

**Scuppernong Juice**

1. Crush thoroughly 3 pounds (about 9 cups or 4 pints) fully ripe scuppernongs.
2. Add 1 cups water. Cover and simmer 10 minutes.
3. Strain through jelly bag or cheese cloth.
4. Refrigerate and serve, or use in recipes that follow.

**Scuppernong Jelly**

1. Measure 7 cups sugar and set aside.
2. Put 4 cups scuppernong juice and 2 tsp. lemon juice in large saucepan.
3. Mix in 1 box Sure-Jell. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly.
4. Add sugar. Bring to a full rolling boil and boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly.
5. Remove from heat.
6. Skim off foam with metal spoon.
7. Pour at once into prepared jars. Yield: 8 half pints.

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8. Which of the following was one of the plans to make Boo Radley come out of the house?

A. Placing a trail of lemon drops from the back door to the front yard to see if he’d follow it.
B. Creating a lemon cake and ringing the door bell, to see if he will open the door.
C. Throwing a lemon through a window to see if he will come out to see who threw it.
D. Leaving a note in the mailbox inviting Boo to have a glass of lemonade
9. After Jem cuts the heads off of Mrs. Dubose's camellias, he gets in trouble and has to go back to apologize and clean up the mess. When he returns, he has a sullen look on his face, and Scout suspects he may have been given a dose of an unpleasant medicine. What was its name?
   A. Cod liver oil
   B. Calomel
   C. Castor oil
   D. Aspirin

10. After Aunt Alexandra arrives, Atticus has a discussion with Scout and Jem about being “the little lady and gentleman that you are.” This upsets Scout. She begins to cry and when she turns to leave, she finds her face buried in Atticus’ stomach and she holds onto him and he to her. When she eventually talks, what does she say?
   A. “Your stomach’s growling.”
   B. “Your shirt is scratchy.”
   C. “You smell good.”
   D. “Your hands are cold.”

11. Aunt Alexandra disapproved of Scout’s tomboy behavior. Her vision of Scout’s deportment involved which items that are related to the preparation of food?
   A. Forks and spoons
   B. Small stoves and tea sets
   C. Plates and glasses
   D. Microwave ovens and food processors

12. When Aunt Alexandra hosts a meeting of the Missionary circle, how does Scout demonstrate that she is a lady?
   A. She styles her hair in the latest fashion.
   B. She curtsies to the other women
   C. She carries a tray of cookies to Mrs. Merriweather.
   D. She serves coffee and cakes to the guests.

13. Mrs. Dubose has a narrow view of Scout’s future. In fact, she predicts that if Scout doesn’t change her ways, she will be one of the following when she grows up.
   A. She would be waiting tables in the OK Café.
   B. She would be an old spinster with no teeth.
   C. She would be cleaning houses for the wealthy people in town.
   D. She would be clerk in the town drugstore.

14. Dill runs away from Meridian, Mississippi, and heads to the Finch household in Maycomb, Alabama. When Atticus discovers he is in his house, how does he react?
   A. He screams and yells and tells Dill to go home where he belongs.
   B. He tells Dill he can eat but only after he cleans up and makes himself presentable.
   C. He pretends like he doesn’t see Dill.
   D. He sees that Dill is hungry and tells Scout to get him something other than a cold pan of cornbread.
15. Dill becomes irritated and fed up with the trial and he leaves. Outside he meets Mr. Raymond, who frequently is seen about town sipping something from a brown paper bag. Everyone assumes it is liquor. That’s why Scout is shocked when she sees Mr. Raymond offer the brown bag to Dill and to see Dill drink from it. What’s really in the bottle inside the brown paper bag?

A. Cough syrup  
B. 7-Up  
C. Coca Cola  
D. Fresca

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**Ambrosia Salad**

When a family member says they will be bringing ambrosia to a party or event, chances are they are talking about a popular salad that generally contains oranges, pineapple chunks, grapes, coconut and nuts. Some versions contain marshmallows, whipping cream, or sour cream, while other recipes contain fruit cocktail, grapefruit or vanilla pudding. It’s a recipe with plenty of options.

To the ancient Greeks, ambrosia has had many meanings too. Though researchers are not certain what the ancient Greeks thought the composition of ambrosia was (or its liquid counterpart “nectar”), it is believed that these mythical foods had some connection to honey.

In ancient Greek mythology, ambrosia gives immortality to those who consume it. Ambrosia also was guaranteed to satisfy the hunger or thirst of the residents of Mount Olympus. It was said that ambrosia was delivered to the gods by sacred doves.

There are several examples in Greek myth in which ambrosia is used by the gods and goddesses as a sort of balm, indicating the conference of grace or even immortality (in the case of mortals) onto the recipient. When Achilles is born, Thetis anoints the infant with ambrosia and passes the child through the fire to make him immortal. In the Iliad, Apollo washes blood from the corpse of Sarpedon and anoints it with ambrosia, readying it for its ethereal return to Sarpedon’s home of Lycia. Later, the sea-nymph Thetis uses ambrosia and nectar to preserve the body of the dead warrior Patroclus.

Making ambrosia involves no cooking, just mixing. Start with a very basic recipe, such as the one below.

**Ingredients**

- 1 cup orange juice
- 3 medium oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 1 can (8 ounces) pineapple chunks, undrained
- 1/2 cup seedless red grapes, halved
- 1/2 cup shredded coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

**Preparation**

Combine juice, orange sections, pineapple, and grapes, stirring gently to blend. Refrigerate until time to serve. Fold in coconut and pecans just before serving. This recipe serves six people.
16. In the very opening lines of Part Two of the book, Scout reveals her viewpoint that Jem is changing and she asks Atticus if it’s possible that Jem might have a tapeworm. Which of the following statements about tapeworms is incorrect?

A. Tapeworm eggs usually enter the body via raw or uncooked beef but it’s hard to detect them because there are few symptoms.
B. A tapeworm is an intestinal parasite and is flattened like a tape measure.
C. A tapeworm lives off of its host, stealing food, and making the host very, very hungry.
D. In a few cases, some patients might experience abdominal pain, fatigue, weight loss, and diarrhea, though treatment with medication results in a cure within days.

17. Calpurnia makes something called “charlotte.” What is it?

A. It’s an appetizer that is named after a long-dead European monarch.
B. It’s a type of chilled dessert in which bread, sponge cake or biscuits are used to line a mold, which is then filled with a fruit puree or custard.
C. It’s a type of bread that contains raisins and cranberries and is served with bare hands.
D. It’s a type of pasta that has lots of curves and squiggles and is always served cold.

18. Aunt Alexandra comes to Maycomb to live with the Finch household. To celebrate the occasion, Scout notes that: “Miss Maudie Atkinson baked a Lane Cake so loaded with shiny it made me tight.” What does “shiny” mean?

A. It’s a slang term used in the 1920s and 30s for illegal liquor.
B. It means to maneuver up a tree or post.
C. It’s coffee that is very strong and bitter.
D. It’s a type of orange juice that is very sour.

19. Three food items are mentioned by their product name. What are they?

A. Nehi Cola, Coca-Cola and Tootsie Rolls
B. Dr. Pepper, Seven-Up and Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups
C. Barq’s Root Beer, Pepsi Cola and Milky Way

20. There are several references in the book to scuppernongs. What are they?

A. A sweet potato that is purple instead of orange
B. A large white grape that is a member of the Muscadine family.
C. A yellow cheese that has a tart flavor
D. A green apple that grows on a bush instead of a tree

21. Miss Maudie is considered one of the best cake-makers in all of Maycomb, Alabama. What is one of her specialties cakes, one to which she guards the recipe?

A. Avenue Cake
B. Street Cake
C. Road Cake
D. Lane Cake
According to Miss Maudie, mockingbirds don’t do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. She also says mockingbirds have other good qualities. What are they?

A. “They don’t eat up people’s gardens; don’t nest in corncribs.”
B. “They don’t peck holes in cantaloupes.”
C. “They don’t eat up all the scuppernongs.”
D. “They don’t eat more than they can hold.”
23. One type of candy mentioned in the book has a heavenly name. It’s a meringue-type confection, it is believed to have been created in the early 1900s, and most recipes contain granulated sugar, water, egg whites, and corn syrup. What is the name of this candy?
   A. Trinity
   B. Blessedness
   C. Holiness
   D. Divinity

24. When Jem turns 12, he sometimes prefers to be by himself and doesn’t always want to be with Scout. This frustrates Scout and she complains to Calpurnia. Calpurnia’s response is which one of the following:
   A. “You just come into the dining room with me and we’ll polish the silver.”
   B. “You just come right on into the kitchen when you feel lonesome. We’ll find lots of things to do in here.”
   C. “You just come right on out into the garden and we’ll pick weeds.”
   D. “You just come right on into the pantry and we’ll count the cans of beans.”

25. Scout was dressed to be a ham at the Halloween pageant. She had a small role and was to go onstage when someone shouted her cue. What was that word?
   A. “Bacon”
   B. “Ham”
   C. “Pickled-pig’s ear”
   D. “Pork”

26. Atticus likes most kinds of foods but there is one thing he doesn’t eat. What is it?
   A. Broccoli
   B. Asparagus
   C. Desserts
   D. Cauliflower

27. There is a type of candy mentioned in the book that is pulled, kept in wax paper to keep it soft, and is often a souvenir from many seaside coastal towns. What is it?
   A. Taffy
   B. Toffee
   C. Caramel
   D. Nougat

28. When Aunt Alexandra makes Christmas dinner, she makes a feast that includes three kinds of meat, summer vegetables from her pantry shelves, peach pickles, two kinds of cake and ambrosia. What is ambrosia?
   A. A complicated drink made from milk and honey.
   B. A special holiday bread that contains rum
   C. A fruit salad with coconut and nuts.
   D. A tasty butter infused with garlic and herbs.
29. At Aunt Alexandra’s Christmas dinner, what are the seating arrangements?
   A. Everyone sits at a big round table.
   B. Everyone sits at picnic tables outside.
   C. Jem gets to sit at the adult table, but Scout sits at a little table in the dining room.
   D. Everyone just stands around and eats without sitting down.

30. After the Christmas dinner, Jem and Scout and their cousin Francis discuss a concept that seems foreign to Scout. What concept is that?
   A. Cannibalism
   B. Vegetarianism
   C. The concept of cereal for dinner.
   D. The concept that men need to learn to cook.

31. The morning after the trial, Scout walks into a kitchen that is filled with food. The food was a gesture of appreciation to Atticus Finch for defending Tom Robinson because he did not get paid for his work. Who brought the food?
   A. Mrs. Robinson
   B. The members of the Reverend Sykes’ church
   C. Neighbors of the Finches
   D. The above plus others that are never identified for their gesture

32. When Atticus Finch discovers the food left for him and his family, there is one item that catches his eye. He exclaims: “Reckon Aunty’ll let me eat these in the dining room?” What is this item?
   A. Pickled pigs’ knuckles
   B. Barbeque potato chips
   C. Deep fried pickles
   D. Deep fried barbecued peanut butter and jelly sandwiches

When at the school auditorium for the Halloween pageant, Scout and her friend Cecil enter a blackened seventh grade classroom where they were “invited” to touch the body parts of a human being.

33. Two peeled grapes represented what part of the body?
   A. Big toes
   B. Kidneys
   C. Eye balls

34. Raw liver represented what part of the body?
   A. Heart
   B. Stomach
   C. Lungs
35. Cold spaghetti represented what part of the body?
   A. Tongue
   B. “Innards”
   C. Brain cells

36. When Jem and Scout are leaving the auditorium to go home, Jem realizes that Scout’s costume can be seen in the dark. Why is this possible?
   A. Scout is going as a honey-baked ham and the honey on the outside is glowing in the dark.
   B. According to Jem, her “fat streaks are showin’.”
   C. She’s wearing neon yellow sneakers.
   D. She’s wearing brightly colored nail polish that reflects light.

37. At the end of the book, Scout calls attention to something ironic; she surmises that neighbors bring __________ with death and _________ with sickness.
   A. Dignity, pity
   B. Sorrow, sympathy
   C. Condolences, encouragement
   D. Food, flowers

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ANSWERS

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Food and Social Justice in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

*To Kill a Mockingbird* was written and published during a turbulent period in American history – the tension of the Civil Rights Movement. It is set in yet another turbulent time – the Great Depression. Therefore, it should come as no surprise that the main theme of the novel is social justice.

Much has been written about the concepts of racial inequality, class and social standing in the American South, the consequences of poverty, and the role of lawyers in preserving civil rights.

Another theme in the book is the concept of food, hunger and the concept of social justice.

**Food and the Principles of Social Justice**

Is access to food a basic human right? In a world where there’s plenty of food for everyone, is hunger unjust? Consider the following statements that define the concept of social justice as it relates to food and hunger.

- “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services...” *Article 25 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, endorsed by every country in the world.

- “Food security exists when all people, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.” *United Nation’s Food and Agriculture Organization*

- “Food security for a household means access by all members at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food security includes at a minimum, the ready availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, and an assured ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways (that is, without resorting to emergency food supplies, scavenging, stealing, or other coping strategies).” *United States Department of Agriculture*

- “Food and Society is based on a vision of a future food system that provides all segments of society, especially those most vulnerable, a safe and nutritious food supply, grown in a manner that protects health and the environment, and adds economic and social value to rural and urban communities. This future food system is one in which Good Food – that is, healthy, green, fair and affordable food – is abundant. Healthy, as in it won’t cause chronic illness. Green, as in it was produced in a manner that is environmentally sustainable. Fair, as in no one along the production line was exploited for its creation. Affordable, as in people of all socioeconomic backgrounds can purchase and access it. Since the most vulnerable in our society are those who currently enjoy the least access to any food, let alone good food, vulnerable children and their communities should be the primary beneficiaries of a system abundant with good food.” *Food and Society Foundation*

- “Minimum material resources are an absolute necessity for human life. If persons are to be recognized as members of the human community, then the community has an obligation to help fulfill basic needs unless an absolute scarcity of resources makes
this strictly impossible. No such scarcity exists in the United States today. Social justice implies that persons have an obligation to be active and productive participants in the life of society and that society has a duty to enable them to participate in this way.” Economic Justice for All

Discussion Questions

1. Do you believe everyone has a right to food?

2. Do you believe that people who have access to nutritious food are more likely to live longer, healthier, more productive lives?

3. Do you believe that people should have access to food without having to resort to methods such as scavenging or stealing?

4. Do all people have a right to food that is affordable?

5. Do all people have a right to food that is healthy; in other words, food that will not cause chronic illness?

6. Do children, as the most vulnerable, have special access to food?

7. Do people in communities where there is abundant food have obligations to help provide food to people in other parts of the country or the world?

Food and Social Justice in To Kill a Mockingbird

The concept of food and social justice is illustrated prominently throughout To Kill a Mockingbird. However, there are three specific incidences in the story where social justice pokes up its head and begs to be discussed.

1. In Chapter Two, Scout tries to explain to her teacher, Miss Caroline, that Walter Cunningham did not have lunch because he was poor. Miss Caroline had offered Walter a quarter to spend for lunch, but Scout knew he wouldn’t take it because the members of the Cunningham family did not borrow what they could not pay back. Scout knew this because Atticus had helped Walter’s father with a legal matter, and Mr. Cunningham had paid Atticus with food from his farm. At lunchtime, Jem asked Walter home for dinner and Walter reluctantly accepts when Scout promises not to beat him up any more. Dinner progresses smoothly until Walter begins to pour molasses over his food and Scout asks “what the Sam Hill is he doing.” She embarrasses Walter and is called into the kitchen where she receives a stern smack from Calpurnia, who says: “If you can’t act fit to eat at the table you can just set here and eat in the kitchen!”

Discussion Questions

a. Why does it take so long for Miss Caroline to understand that Walter Cunningham does not have lunch, does not have his own money to buy lunch, and will not accept her money to buy lunch? Is it because the concept of poverty is something that she has not encountered? Do you believe there are many people who do not understand what it is like to be hungry or go without food because they do not have money?
b. When Walter Cunningham pours molasses over his food and Scout belittles him, does she understand that she is being impolite? Does she understand why Walter is using molasses? Is it because he likes to put molasses on his food to make it sweet? Is it because molasses is considered a treat and Walter normally does not get to eat molasses at home? Is the practice of pouring molasses on one’s food a common one?

c. When Scout asks loudly, “What the Sam Hill is he doing?” she is making fun of a guest who has been invited into her home. Even though she is young and probably doesn’t know what she is doing, she has embarrassed a guest. Is this the appropriate way to treat a guest? How should you treat people who have been invited into your home who have customs and eating preferences that are different from your own?

2. In Chapter Fourteen, Scout discovers Dill hiding under her bed. He had run away from home, and said he did so because his mother and her new husband didn’t really need him around. He wanted to stay with Scout and Jem, but Jem told Atticus. When Atticus sees Dill and realizes how hungry he is, he tells Scout to find him more than a pan of cold cornbread. Dill hadn’t eaten since the night before; he ate and ate and ate. He had made his way through all of the leftovers and was reaching for a can of pork and beans when his Aunt Rachel arrives. During the night, Dill leaves Jem’s bed and crawls into bed with Scout. As they begin to fall asleep, Scout wonders why Boo Radley never ran away, and Dill replies that maybe he had nowhere to run to.

Discussion Questions

a. Dill has made a decision to runaway from his parents and to the home of the Finches. In making this decision, he goes without food for at least one day. Is a journey such as Dill’s worth the risk?

b. When one leaves home, one gives up the comforts that are there, including food. Does Dill’s dilemma remind you of today’s homeless people? How is it different and how is it similar? Should the homeless be provided with food?

c. Dill is taken into the Finch household, no questions asked. Did the Finches have an obligation to help Dill? There are thousands of runaway teens on the streets. Is there an obligation to feed them, and provide them with education, clothing, or health care?

d. On a lighter note, when someone who is very clearly very hungry comes to your house, what do you do?

3. In Chapter Twenty-Two, Atticus walks into the kitchen for breakfast to discover that his neighbors had left all kinds of food in gratitude for his efforts to defend Tom Robinson. The kitchen table was loaded with chicken, rolls, salt pork, tomatoes, beans, and scuppernongs. There was even a jar of pickled pigs’ knuckles. Atticus’ eye filled with tears and he tells Calpurnia: “Tell them I’m very grateful. Tell them—tell them they must never do this again. Times are too hard. . .”

a. To Kill a Mockingbird is told against the backdrop of an extraordinary period in American history – the Great Depression. To say that times were hard for many is a true understatement. Many people went hungry. Instead of paying for food items with cash, many people grew their own food or bartered with neighbors for food they needed. What would you do if you had to live through a tough period like the
Depression? Would you grow a garden? Would you barter with your friends and neighbors? Would you cut back on some foods?

b. The food presented to Atticus and his family was a gesture for his decision to defend Tom Robinson. It was a way to thank him for the sacrifice he and his family made. What do you make of a gesture of this type – the giving of food to thank someone? Do you think Atticus should have returned the food? Do you think he actually ate the pickled pigs’ knuckles? Have you ever given food to thank someone for something they have done for you? If you are going to give a gift of food to someone, what would you most likely give? Would it be something you bought in a store, or something you made yourself? What would you prefer to receive – a store-bought gift or something made by the hands of a friend or neighbor? Which is more symbolic?

More Discussion Questions

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, the reader discovers that some of Scout’s neighbors eat items such as squirrel, possum and rabbit that they had hunted and killed. How do you feel about people hunting and trapping food to eat because they cannot afford to buy it? Do you believe this happens today? What about the concept of people who grow vegetables in their backyard to supplement their meals? Is this the same as hunting and trapping meat, or is this more of a hobby?

Have you been in a restaurant, ordered your meal, and been served a huge portion – something that is impossible for you to eat? What do you think of this? Do American restaurants serve too much food? Do you think food is wasted? Should leftover food be served to the homeless or to those in jail or prison? Do you believe we live in a society of overconsumption?

In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, no restaurants were mentioned. Food was prepared in homes. People today are more likely to eat several meals each weekly in a place other than their home. Are the meals, especially those in fast food establishments, prepared with the best interests of consumers? Are they overloaded with too much fat, sodium or calories? Should restaurants prepare more nutritional foods that would benefit their customers? And what about traditional Southern restaurants that serve fried food or other rich fare? Should they examine their menus to cut back on calories?

Gender Roles in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Gender is a major theme discussed in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Scout suffers from the stereotypes that are forced on her: accusations that she “acts like a girl”; attempts to get her to stop wearing pants in favor of dresses; and encouragement to attend the missionary teas. She is slowly being initiated into the role of Southern belle.

1. In Chapter Nine, Atticus, Jem and Finch spend the Christmas holiday with Aunt Alexandra and her grandson Francis. After dinner, Francis and Scout talk about the Christmas dinner and Francis tells Scout that his grandma is going to teach him how to cook. Scout responds: “Boys don’t cook,” and she tries to imagine Francis in an apron. Francis replies: “Grandma says all men should learn to cook, that men oughta be careful with their wives and wait on ’em when they don’t feel good.”
Discussion Questions

a. Francis announces to Scout that his grandma is going to teach him how to cook. But Scout finds this concept funny, almost idiotic. If this book was written today, would this idea seem so strange? Do boys today feel they need to learn to cook? Do boys today feel that cooking is a woman’s job?

b. When you decide to settle down, is it important to you that your mate know how to cook? What about shopping at the grocery store? And what about taking care of you when you are sick?

c. Do you cook or do you buy most of your food already prepared? Do you watch the fat content of the food you eat? Do you pay attention to calories? Is paying attention to calories a “guy” thing or a “girl” thing or are both sexes doing it? Do you understand that food prepared at home generally is lower than calories than food prepared in restaurants?

2. At the beginning of Chapter Twelve, Scout wonders if Jem has acquired an alien set of values and is trying to impose them on her. On one occasion, he yells at Scout: “It’s time you started bein’ a girl and acting right!” Scout runs to Calpurnia in tears. Calpurnia tells Scout to “just come right on in the kitchen when you feel lonesome. We’ll find lots of things to do in here.”

Discussion Questions

a. What does Jem mean: “bein’ a girl and acting right?” Does this mean wearing a different style of clothing? Wearing perfume? Learning to cook? Cleaning the house? Are these standard activities that only girls and women perform? Is this what society expects from them?

b. Calpurnia feels at home in the kitchen and she encourages Scout to come into the kitchen when she feels lonesome. Is the kitchen a good place to go when one is feeling lonesome? Why? Is it because there is the opportunity to create something to eat that is comforting? Is the kitchen a good place to talk with others? Is it a place of creativity? Most importantly, is it a place for women, or is it open to men as well?

c. In the book, Scout is young and very much a tomboy. What do you think she grew into? Do you think she learned to cook? If so, what foods do you think she cooked well? Do you think she liked to cook traditional foods or do you think she liked to experiment? Do you think Miss Maudie might have considered giving her Lane Cake recipe to Scout?

3. In Chapter Twenty-four, a missionary tea is held at the house of the Finches. Atticus enters and calls Alexandra, Miss Maudie and Calpurnia into the kitchen where he tells them Tom Robinson has been shot. The women collect themselves and return to the ladies in the living room. Scout picks up a tray of cookies and walks to Mrs. Merriweather. With her very best company manners, she asked her if she would have some.

Discussion Questions

a. Miss Maudie, Calpurnia and Alexandra are very different types of women. All are excellent cooks. If you could “walk in their shoes,” which one would you choose? Would you try to understand where Alexandra gets some of her ideas? Would you
choose Calpurnia because of her tenacity and strong will? What about Miss Maudie and her clear convictions and common sense? What do you think became of these women?

b. The comments of Mrs. Merriweather might make you wish to have clogged ears. Imagine someone sitting in your own living room and advocating a position that you find repugnant and morally wrong. What do you do? Do you ask your guest to leave or do you extend hospitality no matter what? Does the situation change if they brought the best food to your house?

c. In the 1920s and 30s, teas and other gatherings were important venues for the exchange of ideas. We don’t have many teas these days, but we do exchange ideas over food. When discussing important issues, is it important to have food? Are certain foods better when exchanging ideas or is regular comfort food the best way to go? Does food bring people together?

ESSAY QUESTIONS

The Missing Chapter — A quirky publisher wants to reprint To Kill a Mockingbird, but she doesn’t like the fact that the book is 31 chapters. She wants an even number – 32. She has decided to create a contest in order to find the 32nd chapter and the new chapter must focus on a profile of one of the book’s minor characters. You decide that you’d like to try to write it. Who are you going to write about? Boo, Dill, Miss Stephanie? Most importantly, how do you portray their favorite foods or what they would cook or grow in their gardens?

Calpurnia’s Essay — She reigns over the Finch kitchen but did you know that Harper Lee was criticized because many felt her portrayal of Calpurnia was shallow or incomplete? Now it’s your turn to weigh in on this issue. In this essay, you will describe Calpurnia’s importance to the Finch family, her role as cook, her philosophy of cooking, her favorite foods to cook and to eat, and how she would change the world through the elimination of hunger.

Food and Social Justice — Explain what you believe to be the concept of social justice as it relates to food. Do you believe that everyone is entitled to eat meals that are nutritious and healthy? If so, how would this happen? Do you believe that people who don’t have access to nutritious food are less likely to stay awake in class, perform their jobs effectively, or make lower wages? Do you believe there are the problems associated with food and the ability to study or perform work duties?

Your Favorite Foods — More than 50 foods are mentioned in To Kill a Mockingbird. Which ones would you eat? Which ones would you never go near? If you wrote a chapter of a book, what foods would you include and why? Would you include your favorites? Or would you mention foods you’d like to try but never have? How would you use food to make important points?

Food and Guys — Do you remember the scene in which Francis announces to Scout that his grandma is going to teach him how to cook? What did you think about this scene? Do you think it’s important that guys need to cook? Do you think young men believe that cooking is a woman’s job? How have attitudes changed since the time this book was written?
FOOD TIMELINE

1926

- Luther Burbank dies. An American horticulturist, he developed many varieties of fruits and vegetables, including the Burbank Potato (1873), the Shasta Daisy, more than 100 varieties of plums and prunes, and 10 varieties of berries.

- The Mount Olive Pickle Company is founded in North Carolina.

- The first automatic pop-up toaster is introduced by the Waters-Genter Company of Minneapolis.

- Dame Nellie Melba gives her farewell performance. Melba toast and Peach Melba were named in her honor. Born Helen Porter Mitchell in 1861, she became one of the most famous sopranos and was the first Australian to achieve international recognition in opera.

- The Electrolux Servel Corp. receives the first U.S. patent for a household refrigerator cooled by a sealed gas refrigerant.

- The Hormel Company of Austin, Minnesota, markets the first canned ham. Pigs had been domesticated in China and Europe for centuries, but it was not until Hernando de Soto brought 13 pigs to America that this region had breeding stock. By the 17th century, most American farmers raised pigs.

- The potato-chip bag is created. Laura Scudder invents the potato-chip bag by ironing together two pieces of waxed paper, creating an airtight seal that kept chips fresh until opened. In 1934, K.T. Salem, a potato-chip maker in Akron, Ohio, was the first to distribute chips in glassine waxed paper bags. Today, chips are packaged in plastic bags, with nitrogen gas blown in prior to sealing that lengthens shelf life and provides protection against crushing.

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The Greatest Invention Since Sliced Bread

Until 1928, people either baked their bread at home or bought full loaves of bread. If they needed a slice of bread, they simply grabbed a knife and chopped, creating ragged, irregular cuts.

This all changed when Otto Frederick Rohwedder of Davenport, Iowa, invented a device that could slice bread. Bakers scoffed at Rohwedder’s early slicers because they felt that bread would quickly go stale if pre-sliced. Rohwedder was undeterred. He believed that pre-sliced bread would be a major convenience for consumers.

In 1928, Rohwedder created a five-foot, three-inch contraption that not only sliced bread but wrapped it in wax paper to keep it fresh. Frank Bench, a baker in Chillicothe, Missouri, took a chance and used Rohwedder’s invention. The first loaves of pre-sliced bread went on shelves on July 7, 1928, as “Sliced Kleen Maid Bread.” Bench’s sales went through the roof.

In 1930, Wonder Bread began to commercially produce pre-sliced loaves of bread, popularizing sliced bread and making it a household staple.
1927

- Clarence Birdseye of Massachusetts receives a U.K. patent for frozen fish fingers.
- Imperial Airways becomes the first British airline to serve hot meals.
- ‘Struttin’ With Some Barbecue’ is recorded by Louis Armstrong and his Hot Five.
- Dr. Edward Anton Asselbergs is born. He develops the process for making instant mashed potato flakes, still used today.
- Edwin E. Perkins of Hastings, Nebraska, invents the powdered drink Kool-Aid. The original product was a concentrated drink mix called Fruit Smack. The four-ounce bottle made enough for a family to enjoy at an affordable price. However, shipping the bottles proved to be costly and breakage was a problem. In 1927, Perkins developed a method of removing the liquid from Fruit Smack so the remaining powder could be re-packaged in envelopes (which Perkins designed and printed) under a new name to be called Kool-Ade, later changed to Kool-Aid. The product, which sold for 10¢ a packet, was first sold to wholesale grocery, candy and other suitable markets by mail order in six flavors; strawberry, cherry, lemon-lime, grape, orange and raspberry. During the Great Depression, Perkins cut the price in half to just 5¢ a packet, a “luxury” most families could afford.
- Pez peppermint breath mints are introduced in Vienna.

1928

- Fats Domino (Antoine Domino) is born in New Orleans. One of rock-and-roll’s earliest stars, one of his early hits was “Blueberry Hill,” which reached number two in 1956.
- Kraft’s Velveeta Cheese is invented. It was packaged using the 1921 invention of a tinfoil lining that could house the cheese inside a wooden box. Its special cooking properties quickly caught on. When melted, it was as smooth as velvet (hence its name), and it would never curdle when heated. It replaced canned cheese.
- Sliced bread is born. Otto Frederick Rohwedder spent many years working on a bread slicing machine, beginning in 1912. He finally perfected it, and the first sliced bread...
was produced and sold at M.F. Bench’s Chillicothe Baking Company, 100 Elm Street in Chillicothe, Missouri. Mr. Bench assisted Rohwedder in fine-tuning the new bread slicing machine, according to a story in The Chillicothe Constitution-Tribune on July 7, 1928.

- Walter E. Diemer dies. While working for the Fleer Chewing Gum Company, he experimented with recipes for chewing gum. He invented bubble gum in 1928.

- The Green Giant becomes the mascot of the Minnesota Valley Canning Company.

1929

- Sheffield Farms of New York begins to use wax paper cartons instead of glass bottles for milk delivery.

- Popeye the spinach-loving sailor appears for the first time in the comic strip “Thimble Theatre.”

- Greta Garbo’s first talkie (Anna Christie) opens; she asks for a shot of whiskey.

- Asa Griggs Candler dies. In 1887, Asa Candler, a wholesale druggist, purchased the formula for Coca-Cola from John S. Pemberton, an Atlanta pharmacist, for $2,300. He sold the company in 1919 for $25 million.

- Bib-Label Lithiated Lemon-Lime Soda is created just two weeks before the Wall Street Crash. It would later become known as 7-Up. 7-Up originally contained lithium citrate, a mood-stabilizing drug. It was one of a number of patent medicine products popular in the late-19th and early-20th centuries; it was marketed as a hangover cure. Despite more than 600 lemon-lime beverage competitors, 7-Up was able to survive and become the market leader in the category by being one of the first to be nationally distributed as well as being marketed as healthier than other soft drinks. Lithium citrate was removed from 7-Up’s formula in 1950.

Hail the Lunch Box

The lunch box, also referred to as a lunch pail or lunch kit, was first used in the early 1930s. The essential idea of a food container has been around for a very long time, but it wasn’t until people began using tobacco tins to haul meals in the early 20th century, followed by the use of lithographed images on metal, that the containers became a staple of western youth, and in turn, a marketable product in the eyes of manufacturers.

The lunch box has historically been used by schoolchildren to carry a prepared meal to school. The most common form today is a small case with a clasp and handle, often printed with a colorful image that might be based on children’s television shows, films or characters. The first licensed character theme occurred in 1935; vinyl was used for the first time in 1959. Use of lithographed metal to produce lunch boxes in the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s gave way in the 1990s to injection-molded plastic.
A Lesson in Longevity — Twinkies

Twinkies, produced by The Continental Baking Company in Indianapolis, were born in 1930 and they were quite different from the ones we know today. The original version was a cream-filled strawberry shortcake. They were produced only when strawberries were in season.

One of the bakers came up with an idea to create a banana filling. The along came World War II and a banana shortage, so the banana filling became vanilla, which is closer to the version of today.

The eggs, milk and butter in early Twinkies gave them a shelf life of only two days. The original Twinkies sold for a nickel, and they were popular. Store shelves had to be replenished every other day, but the practice was expensive. So, the need for a longer shelf life led to many changes in the Twinkie recipe. Mostly because of packaging, today’s Twinkies have a shelf life of about 25 days.

Many myths have sprung up around the Twinkie’s longevity, claiming that it stays fresh for decades, would survive a nuclear war, and that the company is still selling off the original batch made in 1930. None are true, but this one is: Twinkies get their name from a product manufactured and sold in 1930 – Twinkle-Toe Shoes.

• The Ruby Red grapefruit was a chance mutation discovered at a farm in McAllen, Texas. Growing on a pink grapefruit tree, the red grapefruit gave rise to the Texas Red Grapefruit Industry. In the 1930s, redder bud mutations were found in numerous groves. Each new finding was named for the grower who found it. With several red grapefruit varieties and names being shipped commercially, keeping track of it soon became a marketing problem. All the red varieties of fruit started being marketed under the name “Ruby.” The “Ruby” Red Grapefruit was the first grapefruit to be granted a U.S. patent.

• Harland Sanders (Colonel Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken fame) opens his first restaurant in Corbin, Kentucky, in the front room of a small gas station.

1930

• Candy-maker Frank C. Mars of Minnesota introduces the Snickers bar in 1930

• At the St. Louis International Air Exposition, a cow supposedly flew in an airplane for the first time; this same cow became the first cow to be milked while flying.

• Retail frozen foods go on sale for the first time in Springfield, Massachusetts. Various fruits, vegetables, meat and fish are offered for sale. Clarence Birdseye developed the method used to successfully freeze foods on a commercial scale.

• ‘Twinkies’ go on sale for the first time.

• Most grocers begin to expand to become supermarkets.
• Mrs Ellen Church, a registered nurse, becomes the first airline stewardess on a United Airlines tri-motor Boeing 80A flying from San Francisco to Cheyenne, Wyoming. The meal was chicken, fruit salad and rolls.

• The ‘Dagwood’ sandwich is eaten by Dagwood Bumstead of the comic strip “Blondie.” The is a sandwich made with many layers of bread, meats, cheese, lettuce, tomato, condiments, etc.

• The Walker-Gordon Dairy develops the Rotolactor, a 50-stall revolving milking platform that could mechanically milk over 1,500 cows in seven hours.

1931

• The first commercial doors operated by a photoelectric cell are installed on the swinging doors between the kitchen and dining room of Wilcox’s Pier Restaurant in West Haven, Connecticut.

• The Joy of Cooking, written by Erma Rombauer, is published.

• Stephen Moulton Babcock dies. He developed a test to measure the fat content of milk, which helped improve the quality of commercial dairy production.

• General Mills introduces Bisquick.

• Beech-Nut Baby Food makes its market debut; there were 13 varieties.

1932

• William Wrigley, Jr., dies. He began his career at age 13 as a traveling salesman selling soap for his father’s company. One of his many sales jobs gave chewing gum as an incentive. Customers liked the gum better than the product. Soon marketing his own gum, Juicy Fruit in 1893, and later that year Wrigley’s Spearmint. His company became one of the largest advertisers in the U.S., as well as the largest chewing gum manufacturer in the world.

• James E. Markham of Stark Brothers Nurseries and Orchards in Mississippi receives the first patent for a fruit tree – a peach tree whose fruit ripened later than other varieties.

1932 Is a Key Year for a Snack Food Powerhouse

In 1932, Elmer Doolin of San Antonio started a company by purchasing the rights to a little known corn chip product that he would make famous.

In the same year, Herman W. Lay of Nashville developed a business by selling a product familiar to people in his region, but later would become America’s favorite potato chip.

In 1945, the Frito Company granted H.W. Lay & Company an exclusive franchise to manufacture and distribute Fritos Corn Chips in the Southeastern United States. As the two companies worked toward national distribution, a close business affiliation developed that eventually resulted in a merger. In September 1961, just 29 years after the founding of both companies, The Frito Company and H.W. Lay & Company merged to become Frito-Lay, Inc., the largest snack-selling company in the United States.
• Vitamin C is first isolated by C.G. King at the University of Pittsburgh.

• The Mars Bar is introduced. Additionally, the famous slogan “A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play.” The American version was discontinued in 2002, though it was reformulated as the Snickers Almond Bar. The Mars Bar inexplicably took on a new life when recipes appeared that encouraged deep frying.

• Many Americans are desperately hungry and are undernourished. The average wage earner only received about $17 a week.

1933

• The 18th Amendment – the one prohibiting alcohol – is repealed. The noble experiment known as Prohibition is ended.

• The first automatic soda fountain dispenser is introduced by Coca-Cola.

• A barge loaded with grain arrives in New Orleans to complete the first Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico barge trip.

• The first great dust storm occurs on the Great Plains.

• The Kit Kat candy bar is invented.

• A California packer homogenizes peanuts into a stable butter that will become known as Skippy Churned Peanut Butter. It’s the first use of Skippy as a trademark for peanut butter, and is produced by Rosefield Packing Co. in Alameda, California. Skippy Chunk-style peanut butter is introduced later that year. From 1933-1944, Rosefield Packing Company will obtain trademark registration for Skippy peanut butter in all 48 states and Hawaii. In 1935, a wide-mouth jar is used for Skippy peanut butter.

• Kraft Miracle Whip Salad Dressing is introduced by National Dairy Products. It combines the best features of two existing products — mayo and boiled salad dressing. It soon grows to outsell mayonnaise.

• Ralph Wiley, a Dow Chemical lab worker, accidentally discovers polyvinylidene chloride, or Saran. He calls the substance “eonite,” after an indestructible material in the comic strip “Little Orphan Annie.” Dow researchers make Ralph’s “eonite” into a greasy, dark-green film. The military spray it on fighter planes to guard against salty sea spray and carmakers use it for upholstery.

• Ernest and Julio Gallo Wines are introduced.

• Food Prices: 5 cents for a loaf of bread, 10 cents for a quart of milk, and 29 cents for a dozen eggs.

• Ruth Wakefield creates Toll House Cookies.
1934

- The Dust Bowl, one of the worst dust storms ever to hit the Great Plains, occurs. It lasts two days and the area loses massive amounts of top soil.

- David Wesson dies. An American chemist, he developed a method to make cotton seed oil edible. Cotton seed oil has almost no taste, so it allows the flavors of other foods to come through. It is used in the manufacture of margarine, salad dressings and in commercially fried foods.

- Pepsi introduces the 12-ounce bottle for the same price competitors were selling 6-ounce bottles.

- Ritz Crackers are introduced by the National Biscuit Company (now Nabisco).

1935

- The first Sugar Bowl football game is played in 1935 in New Orleans.

- The beer can (created by the American Can Co.) is introduced in Richmond, Virginia, by the Gottfried Krueger Brewing Company of Newark, New Jersey. The products are Krueger’s Finest Beer and Krueger’s Cream Ale.

- Lafayette Benedict Mendel dies. An American biochemist who published various papers on nutrition, his work on vitamins and proteins helps establish modern standards of nutrition.

- The American Can Company introduces an enameled can for packaging beer. It was an immediate success.

- Allan Burns is born. He becomes screenwriter and producer, co-creator of The Mary Tyler Moore Show and Rhoda. He also created the character Captain Horatio Magellan Crunch for Quaker Oats ‘Cap’n Crunch’ breakfast cereal.

- Cheeseburger is registered as a trade name in Denver in 1935.

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**Cheeseburger! Cheeseburger!**

It’s difficult to pin down the creator of the cheeseburger. There are three main theories.

1. One theory speculates that the first cheeseburger was created between 1924 and 1926 by a chef named Lionel Sternberger in Pasadena. Supposedly, a passing homeless man suggested Sternberger should add a slice of cheese to his hamburger order. Sternberger did so, added it to his menu and the cheeseburger was born.

2. Theory number two involves Louisville-based Kaelin’s Restaurant, which claims to have invented the cheeseburger in 1934.

3. In 1935, the trademark for the name “cheeseburger” was awarded to Louis Ballast of the Humpty Dumpty Drive-In in Denver.

The great cheeseburger mystery will remain just that – a mystery.
NEW PRODUCTS

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1926
Wesson Oil
Cobb salad
Hormel canned ham
Milk Duds

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1927
Orange Julius
Gerber baby food
Homogenized milk
Kool-Aid
Lenders bagels
Mike & Ike
Wonder Bread

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1928
Welch-ade
Broccoli is introduced to U.S.
Butterfinger
Peter Pan peanut butter
Nabisco shredded wheat cereal
Progresso Foods is founded
Reese’s Peanut Butter Cups
Rice Krispies

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1929
Velveeta cheese
Colombo yogurt
Karmelkorn
Klondike bar
Libby canned pumpkin
Lithiated Lemon (later rechristened 7-Up)
Niblets corn
Oscar Mayer weiner
Ruby red grapefruit

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1930
Birds Eye Frosted Foods
Bisquick
Jiffy Biscuit Mix
Lime Jell-O
Mott’s Apple Sauce
Snickers
Toll House cookies
Twinkies

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1931
Sliced Wonder Bread
Alka-Seltzer
Beech-Nut baby food
Cryst-O-Mint Life Savers
Dehydrated onion
The Joy of Cooking, Irma S. Rombauer
Reed’s Butterscotch candy
Kit Kat wafer bar

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1932
Tootsie Pop
3 Musketeers bar
Bagel
Corn chips
Heath bar
Jell-O chocolate pudding
Pay Day candy bar

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1933
Skippy peanut butter
Budweiser Clydesdales
Canned pineapple juice
Prohibition ends
Sunsweet prune juice
V8 Juice

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1934
Waldorf salad
Campbell’s chicken noodle soup
Campbell’s cream of mushroom soup
Ritz crackers

NEW PRODUCTS OF 1935
Sugar Daddy
Five Flavors Life Savers
Adolph’s Meat Tenderizer
Friendly Ice Cream restaurant
Realemon lemon juice
Royal Crown Cola
POLITICAL TIMELINE

1928

- The construction boom evaporates.
- By 1928, farmers’ share of the national income has dropped since 1920 from 15 percent to 9 percent.
- Between May 1928 and September 1929, the average prices of stocks will rise 40 percent. Trading will mushroom from two to three million shares per day to more than five million. The boom is mostly artificial.

1929

- Herbert Hoover becomes President. He is a staunch individualist but not as committed to laissez-faire ideology as his predecessor, Calvin Coolidge.
- Annual per-capita income is $750; for farmers, it is only $273. More than half of all Americans are living below a minimum subsistence level.
- The backlog of business inventories grows three times larger than the year before. Public consumption is markedly down. Freight carloads and manufacturing fall. Automobile sales decline by a third in the nine months before the crash. Construction is down $2 billion since 1926.
- The recession begins in August, two months before the stock market crash. During this two-month period, production will decline at an annual rate of 20 percent, wholesale prices at 7.5 percent, and personal income at 5 percent.
- The stock market crash begins October 24. Investors call October 29 “Black Tuesday.” Losses for the month will total $16 billion, an astronomical sum in those days.
- Congress passes the Agricultural Marketing Act to support farmers until they can get back on their feet.

1930

- By February, the Federal Reserve Bank has cut the prime interest rate from 6 percent to 4 percent. It expands the money supply with a major purchase of U.S. securities. However, for the next year and a half, the Fed will add very little money to the shrinking economy.
- The first bank panic occurs; a public run on banks results in a wave of bankruptcies. Bank failures and deposit losses are responsible for the contracting money supply.
- The U.S. Supreme Court rules that U.S. Steel’s monopoly does not violate anti-trust laws as long as competition exists, no matter how negligible.
- The GNP falls 9.4 percent from the year before. The unemployment rate climbs from 3.2 to 8.7 percent.
1931

- In August, Kansas farmers produce a bumper crop of wheat as prices collapse; some counties grant a moratorium on taxes.
- In December, hundreds of “hunger marchers” are turned away from the White House after trying to petition for employment at a minimum wage.
- No major legislation is passed addressing the Depression.
- A second banking panic occurs in the spring.
- The GNP falls another 8.5 percent; unemployment rises to 15.9 percent.

1932

- 1932 and 1933 are the worst years of the Great Depression. In 1932, GNP falls a record 13.4 percent; unemployment rises to 23.6 percent.
- Industrial stocks have lost 80 percent of their value since 1930.
- 10,000 banks have failed since 1929, or 40 percent of the 1929 total. About $2 billion in deposits have been lost since 1929.
- Money supply has contracted 31 percent since 1929. The GNP also has fallen 31 percent since 1929. More than 13 million Americans have lost their jobs since 1929.
- Capital growth investments have dropped from $16.2 billion to 1/3 of one billion since 1929. Farm prices have fallen 53 percent since 1929. International trade has fallen by two-thirds since 1929.
- The Fed makes its first major expansion of the money supply since February 1930. The top tax rate is raised from 25 to 63 percent.
- Popular opinion considers Hoover’s measures too little too late. Franklin Roosevelt easily defeats Hoover in the fall election. Democrats win control of Congress. At his Democratic presidential nomination, Roosevelt says: “I pledge you, I pledge myself, to a new deal for the American people.”

1933

- President Franklin Delano Roosevelt is inaugurated; begins “First 100 Days” of intensive legislative activity.
- A third banking panic occurs in March. Roosevelt declares a Bank Holiday; closes financial institutions to stop a run on banks.
- Alarmed by Roosevelt’s plan to redistribute wealth from the rich to the poor, a group of millionaire businessmen, led by the DuPont and J.P. Morgan empires, plans to overthrow Roosevelt with a military coup and install a fascist government. The businessmen try to recruit General Smedley Butler, promising him an army of
500,000, unlimited financial backing and media control. The plot is foiled when Butler reports it to Congress.

- Congress authorizes creation of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Farm Credit Administration, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, the National Recovery Administration, the Public Works Administration and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

- Congress passes the Emergency Banking Bill, the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933, the Farm Credit Act, the National Industrial Recovery Act and the Truth-in-Securities Act.

- U.S. goes off the gold standard.

- The free fall of the GNP is significantly slowed; it dips only 2.1 percent this year. Unemployment rises slightly, to 24.9 percent.

1934

- From May 11-13, a severe dust storm blows much of the topsoil of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas and Colorado to the Atlantic.


- The economy turns around: GNP rises 7.7 percent, and unemployment falls to 21.7 percent. The long road to recovery begins.

1935

- The Supreme Court declares the National Recovery Administration to be unconstitutional.

- Congress authorizes creation of the Works Progress Administration, the National Labor Relations Board and the Rural Electrification Administration.

- Congress passes the Banking Act of 1935, the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act, the National Labor Relations Act, and the Social Security Act.

- Economic recovery continues: the GNP grows another 8.1 percent, and unemployment falls to 20.1 percent.
To Kill a Mockingbird

Crossword Puzzle

Across
1  Pa's wife
4  a kind of candy often sold in seaside towns
6  a variety of kale grown in the southern U.S. (2 words)
10 Spanish for "yes"
11 a meringue-type confection
12 prepare coffee beans for perking
13 distinctive taste
15 to put into a hiding place
17 to be in charge of
18 a canine infected with distemper (2 words)
21 one who has an intense dislike for something
23 frozen water
24 award given to To Kill a Mockingbird (two words)
27 a piece of furniture having both drawers and space for hanging clothes
28 an eating utensil with a small, shallow bowl
29 a fruit salad served at parties
30 a small scrap of food left over after a meal is completed
33 supper, for example
34 the first name of Scout's teacher
36 feathered creature
39 to know more than you knew before
41 a thick syrup produced during the regimen of sugar or from sorghum
42 Scout's costume for Halloween

Down
1  imitating
2  become dim
3  polite form of address for a man
4  The story of To Kill a Mockingbird took place during what era in American history? (3 words)
5  a rich, sweet cake made originally with approximately a pound each of butter, sugar, and flour (2 words)
7  a break in friendly relations between people
8  without life
9  author of To Kill a Mockingbird (2 words)
14  shape
15  A wise seasoning?
16  a large type of grape that is native to the Southeastern United States
19  casual conversation
20  a white sponge cake with a light, delicate texture (2 words)
22  to mature
25  positive
26  the overall color of a mockingbird
27  the Finch family cook
28  twirl
29  breathing
31  dried plum
32  a group of birds
33  large, disorderly crowd
35  The defendant in the court case was Tom ___
36  much more than just a Halloween greeting
37  Is Aunt Rachel's nephew Herb?
38  A sweet pathway? Miss Maudie thinks so!
40  put into a hiding place
To Kill a Mockingbird
Crossword Puzzle Answers

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To Kill a Mockingbird
Word Search

Tootsie Roll
Jem
lane cake
Boo Radley
rabbit
taffy
coffee
sardines
asafoetida
courtroom
Dill
scuppernongs
molasses
possum
Maycomb
lemon drops
charlotte
Nehi Cola
chifforobe
collards
muscadine
camillias
pecans
Alabama
ambrosia
chicken
Coca Cola
Scout
cornbread
Calpurnia
squirrel
divinity
biscuits
calomel
peach pickles
bacon
To Kill a Mockingbird
Word Search Answers

Tootsie Roll  Jem  lane cake  Boo Radley  rabbit  taffy  coffee  sardines  asafoetida

Tootsie Roll  Jem  lane cake  Boo Radley  rabbit  taffy  coffee  sardines  asafoetida

courtroom  Dill  scuppernongs  molasses  possum  Maycomb  lemon drops  charlotte  Nehi Cola

courtroom  Dill  scuppernongs  molasses  possum  Maycomb  lemon drops  charlotte  Nehi Cola

chifforobe  collards  muscadine  camillias  pecans  Alabama  ambrosia  chicken  Coca Cola

chifforobe  collards  muscadine  camillias  pecans  Alabama  ambrosia  chicken  Coca Cola

Scout  cornbread  Calpurnia  squirrel  divinity  biscuits  calomel  peach pickles  bacon

Scout  cornbread  Calpurnia  squirrel  divinity  biscuits  calomel  peach pickles  bacon
Food in To Kill a Mockingbird

Word Scramble

ocbna
saenb
eal nkcae
ytinvdii
caalocco
ckilpse
feoefc
iucisstb
alpsep
ssdnrea
niecckh
laendmeo
oupmsso
scpnea
attrelhotc
rabtbi
amosles
abdrenrco
eebsgtalve
Food in To Kill a Mockingbird
Word Scramble Answers

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