Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Notes : To Kill a Mockingbird- Chapter 28

1. Who all were and not there in the auditorium? How has the school building been described?

Ans: The whole town seemed to be in the auditorium. The whole town was there except Atticus and the ladies worn out from decorating and the usual outcasts and shut-ins. The hall was teeming with slicked-up country people and the high-school building had a wide downstairs hallway; people milled around booths that had been installed along each side.

1. What did Scout remember when she saw the booths? What did Jem tell her?

Ans: When Scout saw the booths, she remembered that she had forgotten her money. Jem told her that Atticus had not forgotten and had given thirty to Jem to give to Scout.

1. What did Scout do on reaching the auditorium?

Ans: On reaching the auditorium, Scout took the thirty cents and went down to the front of the auditorium through a door on one side and backstage. She got rid of her ham costume and departed in a hurry. Along with Cecil , who also had thirty cents , Scout went to enjoy the fun filled booths.

1. What happened when Scout and Cecil were about to purchase a blob of taffy?

Ans: When Scout and Cecil were about to purchase a blob of taffy, Mrs Merriweather ‘s runners appeared and told them to go back-stage as it was time to get ready.

1. What had happened to Scout’s costume? What did Mrs Merriweather do?

Ans: Scout had left her costume backstage before going to the booths with Cecil and someone had mashed it. Mrs Merriweather galloped to Scout , reshaped the chicken wire and thrust her inside.

1. What happened when Mrs Merriweather called out ‘Pork’?

Ans: When it was Scout’s turn to enter the stage , Mrs Merriweather called out ‘Po-ork’ but nothing happened. She yelled out the word again. Scout had fallen asleep and somehow she woke up either due to the band playing or due to Mrs Merriweather calling out to her. Scout made her entry when Mrs Merriweather triumphantly mounted the stage with the state flag.

1. Was the pageant successful? What did Mrs Merriweather tell Scout?

Ans: The pageant seemed to have been very successful but Mrs Merriweather caught hold of Scout backstage and told her that she had ruined her pageant. She made her feel awkward.

1. How did Jem make Scout feel better? What did Scout think about him then?

Ans: When Jem came to fetch Scout he was sympathetic. He told Scout that he couldn’t see her costume much from where he was sitting but he could tell that she was feeling bad under her costume. Jem assured her that she had done alright. Scout was thinking that Jem was becoming almost as good as Atticus at making one feel right when things went wrong.

1. Why didn’t Scout take off the costume?

Ans: Scout refused to take off the costume because she could hide her mortification ( embarrassment ) under it.

1. What happened while the sibling were returning home? What did Jem hear while going back? What did Scout think about it?

Ans: While going home from the auditorium, there was darkness on the road. As the began crossing the black school yard, straining to see their feet, Scout realized that she had forgotten her shoes backstage. They were now about to go back to school when Jem heard some noise. Initially Scout thought he was trying to scare her but after some time she realized he wasn’t joking.

1. What did Jem mean by ‘shuffle-foot’? What was shuffle –foot doing? What did Jem tell Scout to do?

Ans: Jem referred to the person who was following them as shuffle-foot. Initially ‘shuffle-foot’ would move while they did and stop when they stop. But after sometime , he did not stop. He was running towards them and Jem ordered Scout to run.

1. What did Scout do when she heard Jem scream?

Ans: When Scout heard Jem scream, she ran in the direction of the scream and sank into a flabby male stomach. The person cried ‘Uff!’ and tried to catch his arms but couldn’t as they were underneath the costume. The person tried to squeeze the breath out of Scout when suddenly he was jerked backwards and flung on the ground.

1. Who did Scout think it was who had saved her from the person? Who was it actually?

Ans: Scout thought it was Jem who had saved her but in reality it was Boo Radley who had come to their rescue.

1. What happened when Scout called out to Jem after being saved from her pursuer?

Ans: Scout called out to Jem but there was no answer. Scout realized that there was a fourth person there. She could make out that the man started moving around as if searching for something. He started walking heavily and unsteadily towards the road. Jem tried to reach the person but she struck against someone.

1. What did Scout make out about the person she had struck?

Ans: When Scout struck the person, she touched the trousers , a beltbuckle , buttons , something she could not identify, a collar and a face. When she could feel a prickly stubble on the face, she realized it was not Jem. She also smelled stale whisky.

1. What did Scout see on reaching the corner of her house?

Ans: On reaching the corner of her house, Scout saw a man passing under the street light. The man was walking with the staccato steps of someone carrying a load too heavy for him. He was carrying Jem and Jem’s arm was dangling crazily in front of him.

1. Describe all the activity that happened when the man( Boo Radley) carried Jem to his house?

Ans: Scout reached her house after Jem had been taken in by the stranger ( Boo). Aunt Atticus was at the front door probably coming to look for Scout. Atticus sharply called out to Aunt from Jem’s room telling her to call the doctor and asking her about Scout.

Aunt immediately answered that Scout had reached home and placed the call to the doctor. After sometime Atticus asked to speak to the sheriff. Atticus informed Heck Tate, the sheriff about what had happened and asked him to find out if the person who had hurt Jem was still around.

1. Who came to treat Jem? Write a few lines about him.

Ans: Dr Reynolds came to treat Jem. Dr Reynold was the family doctor of the Finches. He had brought Jem and Scout into the world and had taken care of all their childhood sicknesses and was almost like a father to them.

1. What question did Scout keep asking Dr Reynold? What did the doctor tell her?

Ans: Scout kept asking Dr Reynold if Jem was dead. The doctor assured her that he was not dead. He said that he too had a bump on his head like Scout had and had a broken arm.

1. What was Jem’s condition when Scout went in his room to see him?

Ans: Jem was lying on his back. There was an ugly mark along one side of his face. His left arm lay out from his body; his elbow was bent slightly in the wrong direction. Jem was frowning. When Scout tried calling out to Jem, Atticus told her that he was unable to hear her as he was out as Dr Reynolds had given him sedatives.

1. Who else was in Jem’s room besides the family members?

Ans: The man who brought Jem was also in the room. He was standing in a corner , leaning against the wall.

1. What did Mr Heck Tate do when he came in?

Ans: When Mr Heck Tate came in he stood in the doorway. His hat was in his hand and a flashlight bulged from his pants pocket. When Atticus called him in , he sniffed and glanced sharply at eh man in the corner , nodded to him, then looked around the rook – at Jem, at Aunt Alexandra then at Atticus.

1. What information did Heck give?

Ans: Heck informed Atticus that Bob Ewell was lying on the ground under the tree that was beyond with a kitchen knife stuck up under his ribs. He declared that Bob was dead.