**Atticus**

**He is kind and caring**. He paid for his brother's medical training; when Miss Maudie's house burnt down, he saved her favourite rocking chair;

**He is polite and civil** to Mrs Dubose despite her rudeness to him

**He is committed to racial equality**. Takes on Tom Robinson’s case

**He can explain well**. He tries to get Jem and Scout to see things from other people's point of view. He explains to Scout why Mr Ewell poaches to feed his family and he makes the children think about Boo Radley's life.

**He is scrupulously honest**. He tells Jem and Scout the truth about their relatives - rather than the gilded version Aunt Alexandra prefers.

**He has a strong sense of justice** when he mistakenly believes that it was Jem who killed Mr Ewell, he is keen not to prevent Jem being punished.

**He has a dry sense of humour**. For instance, when Jem is anxious about going to Mrs Dubose's to read because it is dark and spooky, Atticus tells him: "That should appeal to your imagination. Just imagine you're inside the Radley house".

**He always sees the best in people**. Far from disliking Mrs Dubose, with her strongly racist views, he admires her for battling against her morphine addiction.

**Jem**

* he always looks out for her and protects her.
* He loves and admires his father, which is one of the reasons why he was so furious with Mrs Dubose and beheaded all her camellias.
* He sees himself as brave and casts himself in the hero role in their games. Although, like other children, he is scared of passing the Radleys' house, he proves genuine bravery when he goes back to the Radley's place for his trousers after having been shot at, and when he and Scout are attacked by Mr Ewell on Halloween.
* He is intelligent and quick-thinking: he is the first to spot the mad dog and tell Calpurnia, who raised the alarm; he creates a snowman out of earth covered in snow; he knows that the ground is cooler under a tree as he leads Scout to and from the school pageant.
* Scout describes him as having "a naturally tranquil disposition and a slow fuse".
* He is more mature than Scout and so has a better grasp of the trial. He is convinced of victory and so his faith in the justice system and in human nature is shaken when Tom is pronounced guilty. Scout says "his shoulders jerked as if each 'guilty' was a separate stab between them".