

# **In Cold Blood**

## **Truman Capote Discussion Questions**

### **Section I: The Last to See Them Alive**

1. Describe Holcomb. In what ways is it an ordinary town? In what ways is it different? Why does the author spend so much time describing the town?
2. Capote is known for his elaborate sentence structure and use of parallelism. What parallelisms can you find on pages 3-5?
3. Describe Herbert William Clutter.
4. Describe Bonnie Clutter.
5. Describe Kenyon.
6. Describe Nancy.
7. Describe what Perry's possessions tell about him.
8. Why is Nancy concerned about her father?
9. Describe Dick.
10. Compare and Contrast Dick and Perry.
11. What information about Dick and Perry's plan do we get so far?

### **Section I: The Last to See Them Alive (pages 24-48)**

12. Provide at least five adjectives to describe Bonnie Clutter and give a specific example to support each adjective you provide.
13. Contrast Bonnie Clutter to Nancy Clutter. Why do you think the mother and daughter are so different?
14. What new information do we learn about Garden City? Why is this information important?
15. Why does Capote use short sections of anonymous quotations in describing the town on page 33?

*Sample of 8-page document*