The Radley house is described as old and decrepit; it seems out of place, menacing, and mysterious, and seems to be holding many secrets. “Rain-rotted shingles drooped over the eaves of the veranda; oak trees kept the sun away. The remains of a picket drunkenly guarded the front yeard-a “swept” yard that was never swept [. . .]” (pg 10). The diction used, such as “remains,” and “rain-rotted,” creates a mysterious scene with connotations with death and discomfort. The children were all afraid of the house, the house is surrounded by mysterious stories, and all the other houses are welcoming whereas the Radley house is closed off, isolated and uninviting. The diction used helps explain that the Radley house is alien.