Dialect and Slang in *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Directions: Examine the quotes below from *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Translate the underlined phrases from the slang and dialect language used by the characters into more updated or familiar expressions which mean the same thing. Use context clues within the sentence to help you. Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

1. “You look **right puny** for going on seven.”
2. “Don’t have any **picture shows** here, except Jesus ones in the courthouse sometimes.”
3. “**Pleased to know you, Dill.**”
4. “Well, for one thing, he has a boy named Boo that he keeps chained to a bed in the house **over yonder**.
5. “**Atticus ain’t never whipped me** since I can remember and I plan to keep it that way.”
6. “Mr. Radley must have **scared them out of their wits**.”
7. “I think your dress is **mighty becoming, honey**.”
8. “I **reckon** they make music for us to enjoy, and they just sing their hearts out for us.”
9. “No need to be afraid of him son, since he’s **all-bluff**.”
10. “Atticus promised me he would **wear me out** if ever heard me fighting anymore.”
11. “There’s been some **high talk** around town to the effect that I shouldn’t do much about this man.”
12. “Hush you mouth! Don’t matter who they are, anybody sets foot in this house’s **yo’comp’ny** and don’t you let me catch you remarkin’ on their ways like you was so high and mighty.”
13. “I was **on the verge of leavin’—I done done my time** for this year.”
14. “**Good evening, Mrs. Dubose! You look like a picture this evening.**”
15. “When summer comes you’ll have to **keep you head** about far worse things...”
16. “**Don’t you fret.**”
17. “She’s a troublemaker from way back, **got fancy ideas an’ haughty ways.**”
18. “**Nome, he doesn’t usually get back till late afternoon.**”
19. “Let’s leave it at this: you **mind** Jem whenever he can make you. **Fair enough?**”
20. “Of course, I’d rather she’d have said to me than to either of you, but we can’t always **have our druthers.**”