

Guinan/AM Lit
The Great Gatsby



Introduction. The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald, like Huckleberry Finn, is a seminal work of literature in its century. In Gatsby, Fitzgerald found an American tragedy, one of dreams left unfulfilled, dreams perhaps doomed from the outset. The critique of American society at the maturation of the industrial revolution stands today as not only relevant social commentary, but also as a work of incomparable literary art.

Directions. Carve out some time, say a total of 9 hours, to read and answer the following questions. Perhaps one chapter an hour. **For each Chapter questions, observations and insights MAKE A COPY(file-> MAKE A COPY)**Then respond to each and submit in classroom. Some responses require a short answer, such as true or false; some require a sustained, extended response. Some are just observations. In any case, the entire reading and responding should take you 9 hours. Work at a good pace

Chapter	1 and 2	3 and 4	5 and 6	7 part I/7 part II	7 Part II	8	9
Completed	1/7	1/14	1/22		2/12	2/14	2/17

Each 2 chapters will be an assignment on Classroom. Alma, and graded according to the below rubric:

4 AWESOME! 99 98 97 96 95 94 93 92	3 SOLID! 91 90 89 88 87 86 85 84 83 82 81 80	2 Meh 79 78 77 75 74 73 72 71	1 little success 68 65 60
--Short answer(SA) all correct --Extended responses (ER)clear and well developed, and effective --Extended responses use the text to support claims -- The Claim - Quote - Commentary method of development --Extended responses are insightful and connect to the book as a whole --conventionally correct --all questions and answers are copied/pasted on to one complete document -Chapter questions are submitted on time	--Short answer(SA) all correct --Extended responses (ER)clear and well developed --Extended responses use the text to support claims -- The Claim - Quote - Commentary method of development --Extended responses use adequate development, word choices, and are conventionally correct --all questions and answers are copied/pasted on to one complete document -Chapter questions are submitted generally on time	--Short Answer are mostly correct --Extended responses are generally developed --Extended responses are inadequate in clarity, development, or conventions --a lack of textual evidence to support claims	--Incomplete or incorrect answers --desperately late --"minimal coverage" answers --distracting grammatical mistakes --printing and or formatting carelessness --desperately late

CHAPTER 1 and 2 MAKE A COPY then answer.

1. P. 6 Write the sentence that ends with “a sense of the fundamental decencies is parceled out unequally at birth.” IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

2 P.10. **CHARACTERIZATION:** The sentence “Her husband...anti-climax” suggests what about Tom Buchanan?

3. P. 10 The paragraph “Why they came east...” What does the narrator suggest about (extremely) wealthy people?

4. P. 10 What is the **tone** of the line “dramatic turbulence of some football game.”

- A. hopeful
- B. regretful
- C. cynical
- D. adoring

5. p. 12, paragraph “The only completely...to the floor.”

What figure of speech does Fitzgerald use?

6. What attitude is expressed by the figurative language in the passage?

- A. the narrator expresses gratitude for feeling welcomed into the exclusive community
- B. the narrator is intimidated by the powerful people around him
- C. the narrator expresses contempt for the vacuous quality of the rich
- D. the narrator expresses eagerness to please those around him
- E. the narrator expresses apathy toward his company

7. **CHARACTERIZATION:** What book is Tom Buchanan reading? What does his commentary express about his character?

8. p. 18 The passage(sentence) “For a moment the last sunshine...at dusk.” Name 3 adjectives that can describe the meaning of the figurative language.

9. p. 21 Who says “The best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool?” **Write a short paragraph** explaining what she means.

HERE IS AN EXAMPLE. NOTE THE RESTATING SENTENCE, THE SYNTHESIS SENTENCE, AND

THE COMMENTARY SENTENCE:

Daisy Buchanan is credited with the quote when talking to _ about her ___'s _____. Daisy is _ her cynicism about the world. She says that she has "seen everything," and yet the only thing she amounts to is a "fool." _____ have little status in society, when their greatest possible _____ is being a pawn in a man's world.

- 1. topic sentence restates question and provides context
- 2. 2nd/3rd sentence synthesizes direct quote
- 3. third/fourth sentence makes a comment, interprets the text to add insight

10. P. 25 “...come out to determine what share was his of our local heavens” expresses

- A. the narrator's sardonic commentary on Gatsby's wealth
- B. the narrator's agitation of Gatsby's agnosticism
- C. the narrator's jealousy of Gatsby's physical appearance
- D. the narrator's interest in egalitarianism
- E. the narrator's love for Jordan Baker

CHAPTER II

Write an ESP that analyzes the meaning of the descriptive passage on pp 27-8. Your paragraph should use the “CLAIM – QUOTE – COMMENTARY” method of development. [THE 8 SENTENCE PARAGRAPH](#)

CHAPTER 3 and 4 Copy and paste the below questions, then answer.

1. What is the effect of the shift from past to present tense on pages 44-5? ("Fitzgerald switches tenses to indicate...")
2. P.48: What are some of the rumors surrounding Gatsby and his past?
3. P. 50: It's astonishing to a character that what are real?
4. P. 52: We meet Gatsby. Describe his smile.
5. P. 54: the word "echolalia" appears.
 - A. Sick. The word is obscure, precise, and tonally on the money for Nick's sardonic commentary. It's usage is the mark of a master at the top of his game.
 - B. Ratched. In its obscurity the word calls attention to itself, coming across as pedantic and pretentious.
6. Provide one example from the party that illustrates how men and women get along.
6. The car wreck scene displays the wretched, reckless, drunk, carelessness of the party goers, True or False.
7. P. 62. What important bit of CHARACTERIZATION do we learn about Jordan Baker?
8. Write at least a sentence that explains how Nick feels about Jordan.

CHAPTER 4 Copy and paste the below questions, then answer.

1. p.66-7(CS) What conclusions can be drawn by the exhaustive list of wealthy people?
2. p 69-70(CS) What does Gatsby tell Nick about himself?
3. [Who is the real life Meyer Wolfsheim?](#)
4. What [opening quote of the chapter] does Gatsby's association with Wolfsheim corroborate? (CS)
5. p. 79. Note the point of view shift. Why?(CS)(*"Fitz-gerald switches point of view in order to..."*)
6. P. 80. The backstory of Daisy and Tom. Told through Jordan Baker's point of view. Note: Baker is a device to enable Fitzgerald to narrate what Nick could not. (CS) Name three pieces of information from Baker's narration that you think to be important:
7. P. 83: Jordan Baker: "Gatsby bought that house so that Daisy would be just across the bay." Go up to the next person you see and tell them this, without any context. Then walk away.
8. P. 83: Nick: "Gatsby came alive to me, delivered suddenly from the womb of his purposeless splendor." How does the metaphor of birth help explain what Gatsby's behavior had meant to Nick up to then? (CS)

~~Up to this point Gatsby has been a mystery. He is a shadowy figure at first, surrounded by far fetched and scandalous rumors. He hosts extravagant parties for the uber wealthy, parties marked for their indulgence on the part of the guests and absence on the part of Gatsby. At this point in the novel, however, Jordan reveals an essential piece of the puzzle: Gatsby "bought that house" to be near Daisy. At once Gatsby's purpose becomes clear to Nick. The metaphor "delivered from the womb" of his own weath suggests that Gatsby has acquired vast, extraordinary wealth for the very simple and ordinary gesture of impressing a woman.~~

9. P.85: "There are only the pursued, the pursuing, the busy and the tired." Sick or Ratched? Explain.(CS)

CHAPTER 5 Copy and paste the below questions, then answer.

1. What does Gatsby offer Nick in return for Nick's cooperation in inviting Daisy to his house?(CS)
2. What is the meeting between Gatsby and Daisy like initially?(CS)

Initially, the meeting is awkward. In preparation for the visit, Gatsby had Nick's lawn cut and spruced up his house. When Nick invite Daisy inside, Gatsby was nowhere to be found, but then turned up at the front door, dripping wet from the rain. Gatsby stood "pale as death" with his hands "plunged like weights into his pockets." To Nick, the moment "endured horribly."

3. (ER) Write a paragraph that follows this topic sentence.

When Gatsby inevitably gets re-acquainted with Daisy, Fitzgerald uses the clock as a symbol to express the motif of lost time.

4. How are Daisy and Gatsby different when Nick returns to the house after a half an hour?

3. (CS)What are Gatsby's feelings by the end of the chapter?

CHAPTER 6 Copy and paste the below questions, then answer.

1. Name 3 things we discover about Gatsby from the reporter.
2. Define ***nouveau riches***. "New-voh reesh"
3. P. 104 "The truth was that Jay Gatsby, of West Egg, Long Island, sprang from his Platonic conception of himself."
4. P. 113 "It was like that." What's the "it" and what's the "that"? i.e. what are we to conclude about the experience of the party?
5. PP. 116-117. Gatsby: "I'm going to fix everything just the way it was before...she'll see."

What do you think when you read this line?(Based on the book so far, i.e. based on the clues/tone/characters & characterization and mood...)

- A. He's going to do it! He loves her so much and he'll win her back and it'll be great!
 - B. He's going to do it! But it will require some sacrifice like building a mother-in-law suite or something.
 - C. He might do it, because he has the means to do it, and by gum, anything is possible.
 - D. He's probably not going to do it, because he'll realize it's wrong to covet your neighbor's wife.
 - E. He's not going to do it, because he, like anyone obsessed with a dream, is doomed to live in the fantasy of the past, which can never fully meet the experience of the present.
6. PP. 116-117 The novel is situated in an era in which writers were critiquing the industrialism of the previous century as well as the notion of the American Dream. A)What is the American Dream, and B)Can we read the passage narrating Gatsby's sentiment toward Daisy *allegorically*, i.e. the past he is futilely attempting to realize is the American Dream? (ER)
 7. The paragraph on p. 118 sums up the whole book. Just sayin.

CHAPTER 7 PART I (119-143) Copy and paste the below questions, then answer.

1. P. 124 Which is the most descriptive paragraph on the page?(SA)
2. CS p. 125 "You always look so cool," said Daisy(to Gatsby) How does the narrator translate this line?
3. P. 127 "That was it." What's the "That," and what's the "it"? (CS)
4. Chapter 7 is critical in terms of plot. (119-143) takes place in four places: 1. A brief scene at Gatsby's. 2. A brief scene at Tom and Daisy's. 3. A scene at Wilson's garage. 4. A one act play-type scene in a Plaza hotel room.
5. Many things are revealed in the Plaza hotel room scene. Name 3 of them.

CHAPTER 7 PART II(143-153)

1. Bloodshed. Myrtle is killed, violently. You have to play the role of a detective:
 - a. (147) Describe the car that hit Myrtle?

b. What do you conclude by (a)'?

c. (150): "Was she killed?"

"Yes"

"I thought so."

d. What do you conclude by (c) ?

e. **CREATIVE WRITING:** Quick improv. You are Nick. Read pp. 151-2. Now you are being interrogated by police. They're doing the whole good cop/bad cop routine. They're threatening to arrest YOU for murder. Write a short play with three characters: GOOD COP; BAD COP; NICK.

CHAPTER 8

1. (ER) P. 155-6 See the paragraph beginning "She was the first 'nice girl'..." Read the paragraph carefully. Then write a paragraph that explains **how the narrator explains Daisy allure**. (Perhaps use the following topic sentence: "The narrator attempts to explain Daisy's allure with imagery and an underlying metaphor of Daisy as a commodity, like a car or a house.") (another hint: you could use the words "objectify" or "commodity")
2. P. 167: another mention of the haunting billboard. What theme is blatantly expressed after the Eckleberg reference? (ER)
3. P. 170 Analyze the use of the word "holocaust": i.e. Write a Claim/Quote/Commentary analyzing why the word is appropriate here. (CS)

CHAPTER 9 Copy and paste the below questions, then answer.

1. Read the letter Nick receives from Meyer Wolfsheim. Which of the following best reveals *exactly, i.e. the truth* of how close Gatsby and Wolfsheim were?
 - A. this has been one of the most terrible shocks of my life.
 - B. I cannot come down now as I am tied up in some very important business
 - C. If there is anything I can do a little later let me know in a letter by Edgar.
 - D. I am completely knocked down and out.
2. How does Mr. Gatz refer to Gatsby?
 - A. Frankie

- B. Johnny
- C. Larry
- D. Jimmy

3. Gatsby's father attends not his son's funeral but

- A. Another funeral
- B. A football game
- C. a picnic
- D. a concert

4. (P. 179) Nick refers to Wolfsheim as Gatsby's

- A. enemy to the death
- B. closest friend
- C. brother that he never had
- D. taylor, butler, lawyer, and banker

5. Describe Gatsby's funeral. Claim/Quote/Commentary (ER) (As for the commentary: what does it say that a man of enormous wealth attracts virtually no one to his funeral?)

6. (185) Nick commits to move from the east back to the midwest. Explain the symbolism of this movement. (CS)

7. P. 187 "...they were careless people..." Tattoo this passage on the arm of the Buchanan's character traits.

8. Transcribe the last line of the novel here:

9. Rewrite the last line, in your own words.

Thoughts on future connections:

Compare and contrast other texts we have read this year. Huckleberry Finn. Of Mice and Men. To Kill a Mockingbird. The Great Gatsby. Mother to a Son. etc.

#1 In some ways the novel The Great Gatsby is a critique of the glamorization and mythologizing of wealth. In this way, it is a timeless classic. Gatsby, as well as the elites with whom he associates, are corrupt, miserable, cynical, empty characters. They are doomed to live unrealized dreams. In Gatsby's case, he sought a fantasized Daisy. Read the paragraph on p. 155 that describes why he was enamored by her. Then write an essay that references the passage as well as other passages in the novel, that explains Daisy's mystique, and what allure she holds.

#2 Modernism is often defined, generally as the shift in artistic and cultural sensibilities after World War I. One of the themes of many of the works of art and literature was alienation and dissatisfaction. Published in 1925, The Great Gatsby tells the story of the disaffected elite class, and its anti-hero Jay Gatsby, whose life tells the tragedy of misguided dreams. Read the novel, as well as Guinan's lecture on Modernism "Make it New," and then write an essay that argues The Great Gatsby's place in the canon of great Modern works of literature. That is, does it fit in the canon of Modern Literature, or not? Use specific evidence from the lecture and the novel to support your answer.

Fitz-gerald uses imagery and a cumulative sentence to express what Daisy means to Gatsby. Daisy's house was not "musty" but "redolent of this year's shining motor cars," -- that appealing "new car smell" suggests Daisy is an object to acquire. The cumulative sentence which begins "There was a mystery..." followed by extensive images suggest the narrator struggling to articulate the Daisy's particular mysterious allure to Gatsby. Fitz-gerald also uses strong diction to express Gatsby's desire. Daisy is expressed with words like "redolent" "Not musty" "radiant" and "exciting." She is compared with material commodities like cars and houses. According to the narrator, Gatsby could sense Daisy's former lovers in the "pervading" atmosphere of the house, which added to her desirability.

Evidence for Gatsby's Funeral as expressive of the novels theme.	Evidence of the symbolism of Nick's move back to the midwest.

