

Per 3 IOP Sign Up

1. Analyze Gatsby's character. Is he a tragically romantic figure bent on winning back the love of his life at any cost or is he a socially inept fool obsessed with recreating the past?	
Alejandro	
2. The American Dream is represented in several places throughout the course of the book. Does Fitzgerald believe that the American dream is achievable or is it something for people to chase but never quite achieve? Be sure to use examples of which characters are closest to the dream and what their fate says about the dream.	
Ben	
3. Examine the two affairs in the text. Think about the differences between how Tom and Daisy treat the person that they're with as well as how secretive they are about the affair.	
Emily	
4. Gatsby is powerful, influential, and wildly successful in the business world. However, he also fails to notice subtle class differences and social cues. Examining this along with his desperate attempts to recreate the past what can be said about his grip on reality. Is he a dreamer whose success leads him to think he can do anything or a delusional man who happens to have quite a bit of money?	
Shane	
5. Examine the theme of the perils of a thrill-seeking lifestyle. How do the main characters each seek their own thrills and what consequences accompany those thrills? What is Fitzgerald trying to convey about the life his characters lead?	
Julia B.	
6. At the end of the book Nick says, "They were careless people, Tom and Daisy- they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made" (179). Examine the actions of both Tom and Daisy throughout the novel to what extent is this quote true? What redeeming qualities do they offer to offset such a harsh accusation?	
Esteban	

7. Consider Daisy and Myrtle. What does each character represent and how do such drastically different characters have equally disastrous effects on the people around them?

Chloe

8. Nick is represented as an observer of the action, he rarely takes part in events except for the fact that he happens to be there when they take place. We have also seen that though he claims to be non-judgemental he often looks down upon those who are with him. How do Nick's biases affect the way he writes the book? What can you infer as exaggeration or understatement? In the end is Nick a reliable narrator?

Hannah

9. What kind of a person is Tom? We know that he cheats on his wife but in the end, isn't willing to separate from her and promises to do better. Examine his actions, is he a flawed romantic who is easily sidetracked by other women, or is he a thuggish brute who is unwilling to lose control over anything he sees as his?

10. Why does Gatsby choose to cultivate an air of mystery about himself? Is he simply trying to hide his shady business dealings or does he need this mystery to bolster himself in society? To what extent does his mysterious nature help/harm his goal of winning back Daisy?

Vance

11. Throughout the novel, we can observe the characters casually breaking the law. From the constant drinking, reckless driving, going to illegal speakeasies, and the rumors that circulate about how Gatsby got his money the criminal underworld plays a large role in the story. Examine how the characters interact with this criminal underworld and what consequences ultimately accompany it.

12. Although there is no poverty in this book class still plays a large role; Gatsby spends most of the novel trying to attain an 'East Egg Status' while constantly being reminded that he doesn't belong in that world. Examine the differences between the upper crust elite that Tom and Daisy belong to, West Egg new money, and the lifestyle of Myrtle and her friends. What patterns of behavior do you notice between the three groups? Beyond their financial situation, what are the differences between them?

13. Chose 5 objects that play an important role in the book and/or the film. Explore the symbolism attached to them and explain why their role in the story is significant.

Zach	
14. Examine Daisy's character and the role she plays in the story. Is she a character with her own goals and motives, or does she function more as a symbol for the wealth and class status that Gatsby is trying to attain?	

