

American Literature Summer Reading

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Welcome to American Literature! This year we will read multiple works centered on thematic ideas of American identity and American integrity. I would like to start our school year with a book that unites both themes: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. Plan to have this short novel read by the first day of school and turn in your Quote Analysis Assignment. We will have a quiz on plot and characters on **Fri. Sept. 8.**

Do I really have to read this over the summer?

Reading exercises your brain and taking 2 months off does not do you any favors. It is truly in your best interest to read this book and several others this summer! We will spend the first 4 weeks of school deeply analyzing this work so come prepared!

Where can I find this book?

- Any bookstore/ online retailer (Amazon has very inexpensive used copies)
- Public Library
- [Access the Digital PDF here](#)
- Hardcover copies are available at school and can be picked up in the front office during their summer hours

Can I just watch the movie?

Honestly, I think the movie (2013) is GREAT! But, our goal is to read the text and understand Fitzgerald's story & message. We will spend some time in class comparing the novel to the movie. Best to read and then watch 😊

What if I need help? Here are some resources!

[Background Info. on Setting & Author](#)

[Vocabulary Definitions & Quizzes for The GG](#)

[Chapter by Chapter Notes](#) (Download to edit)

How can I turn in the Quote Analysis Assignment?

- You may print the follow pages and write directly on them. Hand in your paper copies on the first day of class.
- You may download and edit this document typing directly within the Word doc. Then share/ email as an attachment to acarraway@perryhallchristian.org
- Once school begins, we will use Teams as our primary method of assignment submission.

Quote Analysis Assignment Instructions

As you read, complete a brief analysis of various quotes from the novel. I have provided the template and would like you to write or type directly on these pages.

Required for each quote:

1. Identify the character who says this quote.
2. Cite chapter and page #
3. Paraphrase (summarize in your own words as if you were the character)
4. Analyze (examine the significance of quote)

Below is the rubric for how to receive full credit.

10/10

- ◆ 2-3 complete sentences.
- ◆ At least two specific details or relevant examples support analysis.
- ◆ Response reflects understanding beyond plot points. Analysis includes connections to “big picture” ideas such as theme and symbolism.

7/10

- ◆ 2-3 complete sentences.
- ◆ At least two specific details or relevant examples support response.

5/10

- ◆ 2-3 complete sentences.
- ◆ Response reflects a generally correct idea.

1/10

- ◆ Response given implies that student either did not read or did not understand assigned text.

EXAMPLE:

Quote:

“Then it was true. I saw the skins of tigers flaming in his place on Grand Canal; I saw him opening a chest of rubies to ease, with their crimson-lighted depths, the gnawings of his broken heart.”

Character: Nick (narration)

Chapter: 4

Paraphrase: Gatsby's stories and the rumors I'd heard must be the truth. I can imagine the wealth and adventures he describes as well as his emotional pain.

Analysis: Nick, who had described himself, as "honest" and skeptical has come to believe the hype about Gatsby after seeing just a few "souvenirs." This conversation really points to Gatsby's charisma and appealing nature. Nick doesn't seem to find reason to question any of this personal history although it sounds a bit far-fetched. Gatsby's version of events seems rehearsed or fabricated and yet Nick wants to believe it due to Gatsby's sudden vulnerability with him. This passage is another demonstration of Nick's unreliability as a narrator and Gatsby's mysterious ability to lure people in and get what he wants.

1

"Reserving judgements is a matter of infinite hope."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

2

"When I came back from the East last autumn I felt that I wanted the world to be in uniform and at a sort of moral attention forever; I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

3

"Why they came East I don't know. They had spent a year in France for no particular reason, and then drifted here and there unrestfully wherever people played polo and were rich together. This was a permanent move, said Daisy over the telephone, but I didn't believe it—I had no sight into Daisy's heart, but I felt that Tom would drift on forever seeking, a little wistfully, for the dramatic turbulence of some irrecoverable football game."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

4

"But above the gray land and the spasms of bleak dust which drift endlessly over it, you perceive, after a moment, the eyes of Doctor T. J. Eckleburg. The eyes of Doctor T. J. Eckleburg are blue and gigantic—their retinas are one yard high. They look out of no face, but, instead, from a pair of enormous yellow spectacles which pass over a non-existent nose. Evidently some wild wag of an oculist set them there to fatten his practice in the borough of Queens, and then sank down himself into eternal blindness, or forgot them and moved away."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

5 "Well, they say he's a nephew or a cousin of Kaiser Wilhelm's. That's where all his money come from.'

'Really?'

She nodded.

'I'm scared of him. I'd hate to have him get anything on me.'"

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

6 "And I like large parties. They're so intimate. At small parties there isn't any privacy."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

7 "Can't repeat the past?' he cried incredulously. 'Why of course you can!' He looked around wildly, as if the past were lurking here in the shadow of his house, just out of reach of his hand."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

8

”What kind of row are you trying to cause in my house anyhow?’ They were out in the open at last and Gatsby was content.”

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

9

”Thirty—the promise of a decade of loneliness, a thinning list of single men to know, a thinning briefcase of enthusiasm, thinning hair. But there was Jordan beside me, who unlike Daisy, was too wise ever to carry well-forgotten dreams from age to age.”

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis:

10

"God sees everything."

Character:

Chapter:

Page #:

Paraphrase:

Analysis: