

# **The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald**

Study Guide prepared by Janet Somerville

"That was always my experience—a poor boy in a rich town; a poor boy in a rich boy's school; a poor boy in a rich man's club at Princeton.... However, I have never been able to forgive the rich for being rich, and it has colored my entire life and works."

—F. Scott Fitzgerald: A Life in Letters

## **Thematic Warmup**

Guiding Questions:

1) What tensions about wealth and status are revealed?

2) How are these tensions reflected in Nick Carraway's struggle to belong?

East Egg	West Egg
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- palatial estates of millionaires</li><li>- old money</li></ul> Tom and Daisy Buchanan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Nick's cottage "eyesore"</li><li>- Mr. Gatsby: nouveau riche (house modeled after Hotel de Ville in Normandy)</li></ul>

## Web Based Information

### Categories for Contextual Research

**The Arts:** <http://www.manteno.k12.il.us/cjudy/thearts.htm>

- Jazz Music <http://redhotjazz.com/index.htm>
- Cotton Club
- Charlie Chaplin
- Duke Ellington <http://www.acns.nwu.edu/jazz/artists/ellington.duke/>
- Robert Frost (see info and poems in textbook)
- Mickey Mouse
- F. Scott Fitzgerald <http://www.sc.edu/fitzgerald/index.html>
- Bessie Smith
- Harlem Renaissance Researching the Harlem Renaissance:
  - Langston Hughes [http://www.awl.com/englishpages/lit\\_wkbk\\_hughes\\_bio.htm](http://www.awl.com/englishpages/lit_wkbk_hughes_bio.htm)
  - Countee Cullen <http://www.nku.edu/~diesmanj/cullen.html>
- Alfred Stieglitz
- Louis Armstrong
- Thomas Benton
- Television
- Charles Sheeler
- Culture in the Jazz Age (class notes, etc.)  
<http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu/~nick/e309k/jazzage.html>
- Music of the 1920s <http://www.btinternet.com/~dreklind/threetwo/Jazzhome.htm>
- Article on Jazz music controversy  
<http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu/~nick/e309k/texts/faulkner/faulkner.html>

**Business, Industry, and Invention:** <http://www.manteno.k12.il.us/cjudy/business.htm>

- J.C. Penny
- Charles Walgreen
- Model 'T' Ford
- Trojan Condoms
- Stock Market Crash <http://mypage.direct.ca/r/rsavill/Thecrash.html>
- Charles Lindberg <http://www.worldbook.com/fun/aviator/html/av2.htm>
- Radio

**Government and Politics:** <http://www.manteno.k12.il.us/cjudy/governme.htm>

- Women's Suffrage <http://www.history.rochester.edu/class/suffrage/home.htm>
- Prohibition <http://www.cohums.ohio-state.edu/history/projects/prohibition/whyprohibition.htm>
- Ku Klux Klan
- Coolidge <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/cc30.html>
- Hoover <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/hh31.html>

**Society & Fads:** <http://www.manteno.k12.il.us/cjudy/society&.htm>

- Slang Language
- Dance Marathons
- Hairstyles & Fashion

- Dances
- Flapper Culture and Style <http://www.pandorasbox.com/flapper.html>
- “A Flapper’s Appeal to Parents” <http://www.pandorasbox.com/appeal.html>
- “Flapper Jane” <http://www.pandorasbox.com/jane.html>
- Newport Mansions <http://www.newportmansions.org/>
- Vanderbilt Family <http://www.hvnet.com/houses/vanderbilt/>
- Biltmore Hotel <http://www.biltmore.com/>

**Crime & Criminals:** <http://www.manteno.k12.il.us/cjudy/crime&.htm>

- Al Capone
- Leopold and Loeb
- St. Valentine’s Day Massacre
- Scopes Monkey Trial <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~UG97/inherit/1925home.html>
- Sacco and Vanzetti Trial <http://www.english.upenn.edu/~afilreis/88/sacvan.html>

**General References:**

PBS online: The Great War <http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/>

World War I—Trenches on the Web <http://www.worldwar1.com/>

F. Scott Fitzgerald Centenary Home Page <http://www.sc.edu/fitzgerald/index.html>

1920s people and issues  
<http://www.liberty.edu/resources/library/public/as/history/american/1920.htm>

20th century in pictures <http://search.corbis.com/20thcentury/default.asp?y=20&vID=3&rID=309>

Greatest films of the 1920s <http://www.filmsite.org/20sintro.html>

Hoover gallery <http://hoover.nara.gov/gallery/gallery03.html>

Art, Music, & Culture of the 1920s <http://alephnull.net/20s/index.html>

Black Thursday <http://sac.uky.edu/~msunde00/hon202/p4/nyt.html>

The Roaring 20s <http://www.louisville.edu/~kprayb01/1920s.html>

**A BRIEF LIFE OF FITZGERALD by Fitzgerald scholar Matthew Brucoli**

Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on September 24, 1896, the namesake and second cousin three times removed of the author of the National Anthem. Fitzgerald’s given names indicate his parents’ pride in his father’s ancestry. His father, Edward, was from Maryland, with an allegiance to the Old South and its values. Fitzgerald’s mother, Mary (Mollie) McQuillan, was the daughter of an Irish immigrant who became wealthy as a wholesale grocer in St. Paul. Both were Catholics.

Edward Fitzgerald failed as a manufacturer of wicker furniture in St. Paul, and he became a salesman for Procter & Gamble in upstate New York. After he was dismissed in 1908, when his son was twelve, the family returned to St. Paul and lived comfortably on Mollie Fitzgerald’s

inheritance. Fitzgerald attended the St. Paul Academy; his first writing to appear in print was a detective story in the school newspaper when he was thirteen.

During 1911-1913 he attended the Newman School, a Catholic prep school in New Jersey, where he met Father Sigourney Fay, who encouraged his ambitions for personal distinction and achievement. As a member of the Princeton Class of 1917, Fitzgerald neglected his studies for his literary apprenticeship. He wrote the scripts and lyrics for the Princeton Triangle Club musicals and was a contributor to the *Princeton Tiger* humor magazine and the *Nassau Literary Magazine*. His college friends included Edmund Wilson and John Peale Bishop. On academic probation and unlikely to graduate, Fitzgerald joined the army in 1917 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry. Convinced that he would die in the war, he rapidly wrote a novel, "The Romantic Egotist"; the letter of rejection from Charles Scribner's Sons praised the novel's originality and asked that it be resubmitted when revised.

In June 1918 Fitzgerald was assigned to Camp Sheridan, near Montgomery, Alabama. There he fell in love with a celebrated belle, eighteen-year-old Zelda Sayre, the youngest daughter of an Alabama Supreme Court judge. The romance intensified Fitzgerald's hopes for the success of his novel, but after revision it was rejected by Scribners for a second time. The war ended just before he was to be sent overseas; after his discharge in 1919 he went to New York City to seek his fortune in order to marry. Unwilling to wait while Fitzgerald succeeded in the advertisement business and unwilling to live on his small salary, Zelda Sayre broke their engagement.

Fitzgerald quit his job in July 1919 and returned to St. Paul to rewrite his novel as *This Side of Paradise*. It was accepted by editor Maxwell Perkins of Scribners in September. Set mainly at Princeton and described by its author as "a quest novel," *This Side of Paradise* traces the career aspirations and love disappointments of Amory Blaine.

In the fall-winter of 1919 Fitzgerald commenced his career as a writer of stories for the mass-circulation magazines. Working through agent Harold Ober, Fitzgerald interrupted work on his novels to write moneymaking popular fiction for the rest of his life. *The Saturday Evening Post* became Fitzgerald's best story market, and he was regarded as a "Post writer." His early commercial stories about young love introduced a fresh character: the independent, determined young American woman who appeared in "The Offshore Pirate" and "Bernice Bobs Her Hair." Fitzgerald's more ambitious stories, such as "May Day" and "The Diamond as Big as the Ritz," were published in *The Smart Set*, which had a small circulation.

The publication of *This Side of Paradise* on March 26, 1920, made the twenty-four-year-old Fitzgerald famous almost overnight, and a week later he married Zelda Sayre in New York. They embarked on an extravagant life as young celebrities. Fitzgerald endeavored to earn a solid literary reputation, but his playboy image impeded the proper assessment of his work.

After a riotous summer in Westport, Connecticut, the Fitzgeralds took an apartment in New York City; there he wrote his second novel, *The Beautiful and Damned*, a naturalistic chronicle of the dissipation of Anthony and Gloria Patch. When Zelda Fitzgerald became pregnant they took their first trip to Europe in 1921 and then settled in St. Paul for the birth of their only child, Frances Scott (Scottie) Fitzgerald, who was born in October 1921.

The Fitzgeralds expected to become affluent from his play, *The Vegetable*. In the fall of 1922 they moved to Great Neck, Long Island, in order to be near Broadway. The political satire subtitled "From President to Postman" failed at its tryout in November 1923, and Fitzgerald wrote his way out of debt with short stories. The distractions of Great Neck and New York prevented Fitzgerald from making progress on his third novel. During this time his drinking increased. He was an alcoholic, but he wrote sober. Zelda Fitzgerald regularly got "tight," but she was not an alcoholic. There were frequent domestic rows, usually triggered by drinking bouts.

Literary opinion makers were reluctant to accord Fitzgerald full marks as a serious craftsman. His reputation as a drinker inspired the myth that he was an irresponsible writer; yet he was a

painstaking reviser whose fiction went through layers of drafts. Fitzgerald's clear, lyrical, colorful, witty style evoked the emotions associated with time and place. When critics objected to Fitzgerald's concern with love and success, his response was: "But, my God! it was my material, and it was all I had to deal with." The chief theme of Fitzgerald's work is aspiration--the idealism he regarded as defining American character. Another major theme was mutability or loss. As a social historian Fitzgerald became identified with the Jazz Age: "It was an age of miracles, it was an age of art, it was an age of excess, and it was an age of satire," he wrote in *Echoes of the Jazz Age*."

Seeking tranquility for his work the Fitzgeralds went to France in the spring of 1924 . He wrote *The Great Gatsby* during the summer and fall in Valescure near St. Raphael, but the marriage was damaged by Zelda's involvement with a French naval aviator. The extent of the affair--if it was in fact consummated--is not known. On the Riviera the Fitzgeralds formed a close friendship with affluent and cultured American expatriates Gerald and Sara Murphy.

The Fitzgeralds spent the winter of 1924-1925 in Rome, where he revised *The Great Gatsby*; they were en route to Paris when the novel was published in April. *The Great Gatsby* marked a striking advance in Fitzgerald's technique, utilizing a complex structure and a controlled narrative point of view. Fitzgerald's achievement received critical praise, but sales of *Gatsby* were disappointing, though the stage and movie rights brought additional income.

In Paris Fitzgerald met Ernest Hemingway--then unknown outside the expatriate literary circle--with whom he formed a friendship based largely on his admiration for Hemingway's personality and genius. The Fitzgeralds remained in France until the end of 1926, alternating between Paris and the Riviera. Fitzgerald made little progress on his fourth novel, a study of American expatriates in France provisionally titled "The Boy Who Killed His Mother," "Our Type," and "The World's Fair." During these years Zelda Fitzgerald's unconventional behavior became increasingly eccentric.

The Fitzgeralds returned to America to escape the distractions of France. After a short, unsuccessful stint of screen writing in Hollywood, Fitzgerald rented "Ellerslie," a mansion near Wilmington, Delaware, in the spring of 1927. The family remained at "Ellerslie" for two years interrupted by a visit to Paris in the summer of 1928, but Fitzgerald was still unable to make significant progress on his novel. At this time Zelda Fitzgerald commenced ballet training, intending to become a professional dancer. The Fitzgeralds returned to France in the spring of 1929, where Zelda's intense ballet work damaged her health and contributed to the couple's estrangement. In April 1930 she suffered her first breakdown. She was treated at Prangins clinic in Switzerland until September 1931, while Fitzgerald lived in Swiss hotels. Work on the novel was again suspended as he wrote short stories to pay for psychiatric treatment.

Fitzgerald's peak story fee of \$4,000 from *The Saturday Evening Post* may have had in 1929 the purchasing power of \$40,000 in present-day dollars. Nonetheless, the general view of his affluence is distorted. Fitzgerald was not among the highest-paid writers of his time; his novels earned comparatively little, and most of his income came from 160 magazine stories. During the 1920s his income from all sources averaged under \$25,000 a year--good money at a time when a schoolteacher's average annual salary was \$1,299, but not a fortune. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald did spend money faster than he earned it; the author who wrote so eloquently about the effects of money on character was unable to manage his own finances.

The Fitzgeralds returned to America in the fall of 1931 and rented a house in Montgomery. Fitzgerald made a second unsuccessful trip to Hollywood in 1931. Zelda Fitzgerald suffered a relapse in February 1932 and entered Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. She spent the rest of her life as a resident or outpatient of sanitariums.

In 1932, while a patient at Johns Hopkins, Zelda Fitzgerald rapidly wrote *Save Me the Waltz*. Her autobiographical novel generated considerable bitterness between the Fitzgeralds, for he regarded it as pre-empting the material that he was using in his novel-in-progress. Fitzgerald rented "La Paix," a house outside Baltimore, where he completed his fourth novel, *Tender Is the*

*Night*. Published in 1934, his most ambitious novel was a commercial failure, and its merits were matters of critical dispute. Set in France during the 1920s, *Tender Is the Night* examines the deterioration of Dick Diver, a brilliant American psychiatrist, during the course of his marriage to a wealthy mental patient.

The 1936-1937 period is known as “the crack-up” from the title of an essay Fitzgerald wrote in 1936. Ill, drunk, in debt, and unable to write commercial stories, he lived in hotels in the region near Asheville, North Carolina, where in 1936 Zelda Fitzgerald entered Highland Hospital. After Baltimore Fitzgerald did not maintain a home for Scottie. When she was fourteen she went to boarding school, and the Obers became her surrogate family. Nonetheless, Fitzgerald functioned as a concerned father by mail, attempting to supervise Scottie’s education and to shape her social values.

Fitzgerald went to Hollywood alone in the summer of 1937 with a six-month Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer screenwriting contract at \$1,000 a week. He received his only screen credit for adapting *Three Comrades* (1938), and his contract was renewed for a year at \$1,250 a week. The \$91,000 he earned from MGM was a great deal of money during the late Depression years when a new Chevrolet coupe cost \$619; but although Fitzgerald paid off most of his debts, he was unable to save. His trips East to visit his wife were disastrous. In California Fitzgerald fell in love with movie columnist Sheilah Graham. Their relationship endured despite his benders. After MGM dropped his option at the end of 1938, Fitzgerald worked as a freelance scriptwriter and wrote short-short stories for *Esquire*. He began his Hollywood novel, *The Love of the Last Tycoon*, in 1939 and had written more than half of a working draft when he died of a heart attack in Graham’s apartment on December 21, 1940. Zelda Fitzgerald perished at a fire in Highland Hospital in 1948.

F. Scott Fitzgerald died believing himself a failure. The obituaries were condescending, and he seemed destined for literary obscurity. The first phase of the Fitzgerald resurrection “revival” does not properly describe the process occurred between 1945 and 1950. By 1960 he had achieved a secure place among America’s enduring writers. *The Great Gatsby*, a work that seriously examines the theme of aspiration in an American setting, defines the classic American novel.

Matthew J. Bruccoli’s “A Brief Life of Fitzgerald” originally appeared in *F. Scott Fitzgerald: A Life in Letters*, ed. Bruccoli with the assistance of Judith S. Baughman (New York: Scribners, 1994.); essay reprinted courtesy of Simon & Schuster.

<http://www.sc.edu/fitzgerald/biography.html>

## Guided Reading

### Chapter One

Nick Carraway

- raised in privilege in the Mid-West
- went to Yale with Tom Buchanan
- served in WWI
- moved east in 1922 (to NYC suburb)
- father financed first year of work as a bond salesman

Tom Buchanan

- racist
- physically powerful
- possessions matter to him
- he is emotionally shallow
- he believes people are meant to serve his needs

#### NOTABLE QUOTATIONS:

“When you feel like criticizing anyone, just remember that all the people in this world haven’t had the advantages that you’ve had.” (p. 7)

“Gatsby, who represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn.” (p.8)

“I’m glad it’s a girl. And I hope she’ll be a fool—that’s the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool.” (p.22)

“We heard it from three people, so it must be true.” (p.24)

### Chapters 2 and 3

In the valley of ashes under the gaze of Dr. T.J. Eckleberg we meet George and Myrtle Wilson at Wilson’s Garage. Myrtle is Tom’s mistress. They arrange to travel secretly on the train to NYC where Tom has a pied à terre that he shares with Myrtle. Tom buys Myrtle a puppy which she almost immediately neglects as they entertain their local “friends”. The evening ends in violence as Tom hits Myrtle.

Nick is formally invited to a party at Gatsby’s and he soon realizes that the guests know little about their host, except for what has made it through the grist mill of gossip. They speculate about how he made his money and why he is so emotionally remote. Nick meets Gatsby face to face and it seems that Gatsby genuinely likes him, the reason for which is not immediately apparent.

#### MYRTLE WILSON

- unfaithful
- gold-digger
- patronizing to George
- impudent

“Daisy! Daisy! Daisy! I’ll say it whenever I want to....Daisy! Dai...”

What do you think the valley of ashes and the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg symbolize?

How do Tom’s parties compare to Gatsby’s? (intentional juxtaposition)

“It was testimony to the romantic speculation he inspired that there were whispers about him.”

List rumors/gossip about Gatsby:

How does Gatsby measure up a host?

#### **Chapters 4 and 5**

In late July Nick has lunch with Gatsby in NYC and listens to his dazzling (albeit exaggerated) autobiography. There he meets Meyer Wolfsheim, a shady business associate of Gatsby’s who apparently fixed the 1919 World Series. Wolfsheim asks Nick point blank if he’s “looking for a business connection.”)



That same afternoon Nick has tea with Jordan who reveals the real reason Gatsby is befriending him. Jordan describes the day before Daisy's wedding to Tom Buchanan, where Daisy clutched a letter tightly and mumbled drunkenly about changing her mind about marrying Tom.

Gatsby has spent his time keeping track of Daisy and buys the estate where he now lives in West Egg just to be near her, across the bay. Gatsby wants Nick to invite Daisy for tea alone so he can "drop in" unexpectedly and renew his dream of romancing her, a dream he has held onto since before the war.

In Chapter 5 we learn the true story of Jay Gatsby, aka James Gatz of North Dakota and of the millionaire Dan Cody from who he inherited \$25K.

List details from Gatsby's version of his life:

- \*
- \*
- \*
- \*

How was fixing the 1919 World Series a slap in the face of American ideals?

Why do you think Daisy cries when she sees all of Gatsby's beautiful shirts?

Why is the song "Ain't We Got Fun?" thematically appropriate?

In the morning,  
In the evening,  
Ain't we got fun

...

One thing's sure and nothing's surer  
The rich get richer and the poor get children  
    In the meantime  
    In between time

Chapter 5 is the beginning of Gatsby's downfall because he can no longer find safe harbour in the richness of fantasy where he was previously fully in control.

### **Chapters 6 and 7**

In Chapter 6 we learn the truth about Gatsby's background. What is it?

- his name:
- his education:
- his family:
- source of his 25K inheritance:

Tom Buchanan is right to be suspicious of Gatsby. Why?

Gatsby's attitude:

"Can't repeat the past?" he cried incredulously. "Why of course you can!"

Then he kissed her. At his lips touch she had blossomed for him like a flower and the incarnation was complete.

(Kissing Daisy is a religious experience for Gatsby)

In Chapter 7, why does Gatsby fire all of his staff?

How do Tom Buchanan and George Wilson respond differently to the idea of their wives' infidelity?

The tension builds between Gatsby and Tom on that hot afternoon at the Plaza Hotel in NYC. How do they push each other's buttons?

How is Myrtle Wilson's death a complicated one?

What assumption does Tom Buchanan make about Gatsby's yellow Rolls?

Why does Gatsby stay up all night, "standing there in the moonlight, watching over nothing?"

### **Chapters 8 and 9**

In chapter 8, Gatsby tells Nick his backstory about meeting Daisy in Louisville, while he was stationed at Camp Taylor before he served on the WWI Front.

"It excited him, too, that many men had already loved Daisy." Why?

"He had intended, probably, to take what he could and go—but now he found that he had committed himself to the following of the grail."

What is Gatsby's grail?

How does Gatsby act on his nostalgia for the past after WWI?

Why do you think Nick says to Gatsby, "They're a rotten crowd. You're worth the whole damn bunch put together?"

Why does Nick hang up on Jordan?

How do you feel about Gatsby's death at the hand of George Wilson?

Found poetry:

A small gust of wind  
that scarcely corrugated the surface  
was enough to disturb  
its accidental course  
with its accidental burden

## **Chapter 9**

Why are the details of Gatsby's funeral left to Nick?

Who attends?

What does the Chicago phone call reveal about Gatsby's "connections?"

Why does Nick hang up on Klipspringer?

What do you think of Meyer Wolfsheimer's advice? "Let us learn to show our friendship for a man when he is alive and not after he is dead. After that my own rule is to let everything alone."

What do the September 12, 1906 schedule and "general resolves" reveal about the young James Gatz?

“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...”

## Assignments/Tests/Essays

### Independent Note-making

For each of the NINE chapters you will be expected to do the following:

- 1) Create a chapter title.
- 2) Write a four-five sentence chapter summary.
- 3) Character Analysis (Select a different character for each chapter)
  - \* name the character
  - \* choose a quotation from the chapter that best represents that character
  - \* make a chart listing his/her best and worst qualities
  - \* write a paragraph that describes the character's role in the novel
- 4) Symbols
  - \* note at least TWO sightings of one or more of the following symbols:
    - a) green
    - b) white
    - c) silver and gold
    - d) ashes
    - e) eyes
    - f) books
    - g) heat
    - h) rain
    - i) clothing

### Setting Map

Objective:

To create a map of the setting used in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* based on the descriptions given in the novel.

Areas Required on Map:

- a. East Egg (pp. 4 - 5)
- b. Buchanan's house (pp. 6 - 7)
- c. West Egg (pp. 4 - 5)
- d. Gatsby's house (pp. 5)
- e. Nick's house (pg. 5)
- f. Long Island Sound (pg. 5)
- g. Valley of Ashes (pg. 23)
- h. T.J. Eckleberg billboard (pg. 23)
- i. Railroad tracks and motor road (pg. 23)
- j. Wilson's garage/house (pp. 24 -25)
- k. New York (pp. 4, 23)
- l. Jordan's aunt's apartment (pg. 19)
- m. Tom and Myrtle's apartment (pp. 28 -29)

## Test

### Part A: IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS 3X5=15 marks

Select FIVE of the following quotations. Identify the speaker. Provide the context (where and when). Explain how the quotation contributes to plot, character development or theme.

- a) "I'm glad it's a girl. And I hope she'll be a fool—that's the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool."
- b) "Just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had."
- c) "And I like large parties. They're so intimate. At small parties there isn't any privacy."
- d) "I hate careless people. That's why I like you."
- e) "Can't repeat the past? Why of course you can!"
- f) "When are you going to sell me that car?"
- g) "They were careless people...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."

### Part B: ESSAY Content 9/ Style 4/ Spelling/Grammar 2=15 marks

Select ONE of the following topics and write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, supporting paragraphs and a suitable conclusion.

- a) Provide specific evidence from the novel that shows that the story of James Gatz (a.k.a. Jay Gatsby) is an ironic version of the quest for the grail. Be sure to include details about his past and identify the grail for which he is searching.
- b) By referring specifically to George Wilson, Myrtle Wilson, and Jay Gatsby, show how the search for the American Dream has dire consequences.
- c) Archetypal heroes have mysterious beginnings associated with rumours. Consider Gatsby as such a hero based on the rumours surrounding him.
- d) Show how two characters in the novel manipulate others in order to serve their own needs.

## Essay

Select ONE of the following topics and write a well-organized 5-paragraph essay that includes an introduction, supporting paragraphs and a suitable conclusion.

Use at least 5 direct quotations from the novel to support your argument.

a) By referring specifically to George Wilson, Myrtle Wilson, and Jay Gatsby, show how the search for the American Dream has dire consequences.

b) Show how two characters in the novel manipulate others in order to serve their own needs.

Item	Value	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Mark
Content	20	Voice unconvincing or inconsistent, limited diction, limited support, not always relevant, below expectations  (5-10)	Voice sometimes convincing, limited diction, some relevant detail, approaches expectations  (11-13)	Voice convincing, appropriate diction, significant relevant support, meets expectations  (14-16)	Voice absolutely convincing, appropriate diction true to character, superb relevant support, exceeds expectations  (17-20)	
Grammar and Punctuation	5	more than ten errors  (2)	six to ten errors  (3)	one to five errors  (4)	No errors  (5)	
Spelling	5	more than ten errors  (2)	six to ten errors  (3)	one to five errors  (4)	no errors  (5)	
Style	10	Communicates with limited clarity  (4)	Communicates with some clarity  (6)	Communicates with considerable clarity; uses varied sentence structure  (8)	Communicates with a high degree of clarity; uses varied sentence structure  (10)	