

English 11 Honors Summer Reading Assignment

School Year: 2021-2022

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Your summer assignment is to read F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. The graphic organizers in this packet will help you with a follow-up assignment that you will complete during the first weeks of school. Students can purchase their own copy of the text, sign out books from the library or English department (see your English teacher or Mrs. Lewis), or read the text online at: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/64317/64317-h/64317-h.htm>.

A hard copy of your completed packet is due on the first day of school.

SECTION 1 – Prior to reading the novel, explain each of the following terms in the context of the early 20th century. You can look up these terms online to provide a definition/example of each.

Flapper	The Great War
Women's Suffrage	Bootlegger

SECTION 2:

Social and economic class play a significant role in *The Great Gatsby*. Tom Buchanan represents “old” money, a term that refers to families who have been wealthy for several generations. Jay Gatsby represents “new” money, a term that refers to individuals who acquire their fortunes within their lifetimes and spend it conspicuously. Tom’s and Gatsby’s behaviors and attitudes are suggestive of the conflicting values between “old” and “new” money.

For each character, select three instances in which issues concerning his wealth and status arise. Provide a concrete detail from the novel (including page number) for each instance and comment on what it suggests about the character.

Tom	Concrete Details 1. 2. 3.	What it suggests about his character 1. 2. 3.
Gatsby	Concrete Details 1. 2. 3.	What it suggests about his character 1. 2. 3.

SECTION 3

Flashbacks are moments when the narration moves back to an earlier point in time. Identify three flashbacks and discuss how each flashback develops your understanding of Jay Gatsby.

Flashback	Page number	How it develops Jay Gatsby
1.		
2.		
3.		

SECTION 4: Party Comparisons

Over the course of the novel, the social interactions of the characters take on increasing significance. The parties one throws and attends can reveal a great deal about an individual, especially if those parties are held up in contrast with one another. Looking at the party thrown by Tom and Myrtle at their hideaway in New York, and the first lavish affair thrown by Gatsby which Nick attends, compare the character of the party and party-goers and draw conclusions about what each party reveals about its host(s). Please remember to cite page numbers.

Guest Descriptions	Details describing the party (setting, events, impressions)	Conclusions that can be drawn about the host(s)
Tom and Myrtle's Party: 1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
Gatsby's First Party 1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.

SECTION 5: Nick's Character

Characterization: In a 7-10 sentence paragraph, explain how Nick has changed by the end of the novel. Provide one concrete detail from the beginning of the novel and one from the end of the novel to support your explanation, embedding those concrete details in your response.

Example: By the end of the novel, Huck declares that he “can’t stand” the idea of being adopted by Aunt Sally (Twain 324).