

## The Great Gatsby Extravaganza!

### Blogging Project:

Go to edublogs.org to create your account. You are just creating a login—not a full blog. You'll need an active e-mail address to do this, and you'll need to be able to check that e-mail address in order to activate your account. Your postings will always be due to the blog before you come to class on the assigned day. If your internet is not functioning, you need to post your response-paper on the day before it's due or in the morning of the due date.

### Requirements for blog posts:

- Your post for your assigned day is 250 words in length, structure it as you wish
- Conventions count and you will present your response to the class—don't be a slob
- Be prepared to read your post to the class; the post will be on the projector, but you should have your own copy to read from at the podium
- Be prepared to answer questions about your response—some of them could be critical or probing
- Your response paper is worth fifty points and there is no make-up; it's due when it's due. I will do reschedules only in cases of absences due to school-related activities (band, sports, stucco, dance, etc)

### Requirements for in-class discussion and commentary

- I will be sitting at the back of the room grading the responses, comments, input
- Your comments to the blog/response paper will be graded on a scale of three
- The maximum score for the discussion and commentary portion of this assignment is 21 (seven contributions at three apiece); this is worth fifty points in the gradebook

### Schedule

Date	Period 2	Period 4
4/3	Evan, Gabriella, Sean	Megan H, Eric, Jessica
4/4	Rhiannon, Brittany, Kunal	Kelly, Lindsay, Brittni G
4/8	Ashleigh, Sara, Mackenzie	Gabrielle, Joseph, Carly
4/8	Jessica, Daniel, Jordan, Reynaldo	Rebecca, Julian, Shadi
4/9	Kamille, David, Hayley, Alexa	Emily, Ernesto, Jared
4/10	Jon, Autumn, Matt, Emily	Malek, Yujie, Brittany P
4/11	Erin, Gia, Cory	Cassi, Meagan D, Elliott
4/15	Bailey, Michael, Alix	Priscilla, Joshua, Douglas
4/16	Frank, Kevin, Kyle	Adrian, Stephanie, Brandon
4/17	Michelle J, Shelby, Tyler	Anthony, Dillon
4/18	Michelle M, Roxanne	

Exam—Friday 4/18:

This will be our usual, five paragraph (two chunkers) exam. You pick the five. Citations are good, and it will be open-book. I suggest getting some sticky-notes to use for text-marking and commentary because you'll be working out of school-issued texts.

1. Discuss setting conflict. Consider both the conflict between East and West Egg and the conflict between the Midwest and the East. How does Fitzgerald use setting and place to symbolize and locate conflicts within this novel.
2. How do Jordan and Daisy represent opposite poles for women in society? How do they represent the turbulence in gender roles in the Modern period?
3. How do Nick's first-person point-of-view and the fact that this is a novel of memory affect how we judge the novel's characters? Is Nick an objective or subjective narrator? What is Fitzgerald's point for choosing to narrate the novel this way?
4. How do money and gender interact in Daisy's choice of men? Consider Gatsby (before), Tom, and Gatsby (after). Does Daisy ultimately choose based on who the best male-provider is, or is there more to it than that?
5. How does Fitzgerald use body-type, body-shape, and clothing to characterize his women? Discuss Daisy, Myrtle, and/or Jordan.
6. Is this novel more racist than *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*? Agree or disagree with my contention that it is more racist because of its nativism and anti-semitism. Feel free to disagree because ultimately, it's a question about language and description, and I could make the opposing case.
7. How does Fitzgerald associate the automobile with death? Discuss this and offer a hypothesis on why he does this. Does this offer any lessons for today?
8. What does this novel show us about the efficacy of Prohibition? Does it offer any lessons for us—we who have been fighting the War on Drugs for over thirty years?
9. How does Fitzgerald use gossip and rumors to do his characterization of Gatsby in the first few chapters of the novel? How is this an effective strategy to develop the characterization of a figure whose identity is completely false anyways?
10. What does Fitzgerald show us about the death—or potential death—of the American Dream? What is Fitzgerald's American Dream based on and how can it be corrupted?

Essay—Due Monday 4/28:

Write an 800-1,000 word essay discussing Fitzgerald's use of symbolism in the novel. Select three symbols and explain their relevance to the meaning of the novel. What is the meaning of the novel?

Possible symbols include (but are not limited to):

- The green light
- Colors in general
- The automobile
- The Valley of the Ashes/ Ashes and Dust in general
- East Egg and West Egg
- Houses and Architecture
- Golf
- The fruit at Gatsby's party
- The eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg
- Physical and Verbal descriptors of Meyer Wolfsheim
- The Police Dog

General Requirements:

- Title Page Required
- Bibliography and Citations required
- This is a Formal Essay!
- Outline Required