

# The Great Gatsby

## An Exploration

CREATED FOR LEVEL 1 ENGLISH

By Mrs Plunkett

Using your notes from the past few weeks, answers to the following questions. You can present the work in any format you like- posters, paragraphs, even a video of yourself talking about the question and your answer to it. All work should be posted to your blog (this means you might have to take pictures of some of it to upload). Make sure you include evidence for each point you make through quotes. Explain all quotes so your audience can see the connection between it and the question that was asked.

### Character

1. Describe three key characters and explain how they change throughout the novel.
2. Identify how each of the characters you have explored above presented the idea of illusion in the text. Describe how they concealed their true self from other characters in the novel. Explain what helped you uncover their illusion in the text.
3. Describe three important relationships in the text. Explain how these relationships were presented as being "false".

### Setting

1. Create a map of the settings in the novel either digitally or on a piece of A3 paper. Next to each setting (there should be four in total) list at least two quotes from the novel that described that setting.
2. Each of the settings in the novel comment on an aspect of The American Dream. Explain how each of the settings reveals a reality about The American Dream and how this message is reinforced by the characters that live in each setting.

## Symbols

Fitzgerald loves his symbolic references. Littered throughout the novel are many key objects that help us understand something more about an idea, character or place.

Create a “symbols chart” as outlined below. Note that you may double up on quotations that describe the symbol i.e. you could use the same quote to describe water and the green light.

Symbol	3 quotes from the book that describe the symbol	3 key moments when the symbol appears	Major characters that the symbol is connected to	What does the symbol represent? What important things does it reveal about a character, place or idea?
Water				
The Eyes of Dr T J Eckleberg				
The Colour White				
The Green Light				

## Language Features

Fitzgerald has a very poetic way of presenting language. He uses the same devices consistently throughout his writing.

1. Select two passages from the book (about a paragraph or two in length) that we have NOT annotated as a class. Annotate these passages and identify the language features that Fitzgerald uses. Explain the effect of these features and why he may have chosen to use them.
2. Fitzgerald uses many allusions throughout the novel. Select three of these allusions and explain the connection between it and the book. Explain how Fitzgerald uses his allusions to create a story that could take place in the real world. Comment on how the allusions help to support the development of illusion throughout the novel.

## **Ideas**

Fitzgerald “accurately shows life and its problems” and he like to address the “moral dilemmas in the society”. One way that he does this is through the ideas (or themes) that he presents in his work. We have talked about the idea of “illusion” and that all of the characters and places in *The Great Gatsby* are hiding something from the outside world. Fitzgerald comments on people's need to present a persona to the world, rather than risk revealing and being rejected because of their true self. He also presents the following ideas in *The Great Gatsby*:

- The inevitability of time
  - The myth of the American Dream
1. For each of the ideas above, make a list of the ways that Fitzgerald presents it to us as his readers. Be specific and use examples from the text to support your judgements.
  2. Explain what you think Fitzgerald is saying about each of the ideas above- what is his opinion on each one. Why do you think he holds the view he does? Comment on why you do or don't agree with him using the world you live in as a reference.