

THE GREAT GATSBY

Anticipation Guide

Big Ideas/Enduring Understandings:

1. Fitzgerald crafts distinctions between class of characters through descriptions of the geography and attitudes toward wealth.
2. The modern condition of humanity is explored through themes related to romanticizing nostalgic memories and relationships between men and women, driven by aspirations of social mobility.

Essential Questions:

1. To what extent does Gatsby's wealth and all the luxuries that it provides, affect his ability to achieve what he desires?
2. How does the historical context of when a text was written, or the historical setting of the narrative, affect current readers' interpretations?
3. To what extent are characters disillusioned, or unsatisfied with their lives?

Today's Standards:

13.11.C: Analyze the relationships, use, and effectiveness of literary elements (characterization, setting, plot, theme, point of view, tone, mood, foreshadowing, irony, and style) used by one or more authors in similar genres.

True or False: for each of the following statements write TRUE or FALSE on the line provided. Then, explain your response in the space below.

- _____ 1. It is acceptable for a person to pretend to be someone else or something that they are not if they are trying to make a better life for themselves.
- _____ 2. It is more important to have an occupation that is meaningful than one that promises to bring you money.
- _____ 3. Often, the way a person dresses or what they wear can tell you about their personality.
- _____ 4. In our society, money often will give you great happiness and satisfaction.
- _____ 5. It is acceptable to lie to someone you love if you are trying to protect them.
- _____ 6. Sometimes violence is necessary to get a point across.

7. Generally, I believe in the statement "The end justifies the means"

8. Women are often to blame when men make foolish decisions

9. For the sake of true love, I would be willing to do anything, including breaking the law.

Short Answer: Answer the following questions based on your own experiences, thoughts, and beliefs. Answer in complete sentences.

1. How might people who are born into wealth compare and contrast to those who are "nouveau riche" or acquired their wealth overnight?
2. Would you date or marry someone just for money? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of doing this?
3. What defines a person's social class today? Would you date or marry someone below your own social class? What would be your parent's reaction? How would you or your parents be different if the person was above your social class?
4. What dreams and hopes do you have for your future?
5. What goals do you have for life in the next five years? 10 years? 20 years? For your lifetime?
6. Can money really buy happiness? Explain.
7. Is the love of money really the root of all evil?