

Applied Practice

*The Great Gatsby*

By F. Scott Fitzgerald

**CURRICULUM GUIDE**

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*The Great Gatsby*

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**  
***THE GREAT GATSBY***  
**CHAPTER 1**

- 1. Early in Chapter 1, the narrator says, “Only Gatsby . . . was exempt from my reaction.” To what “reaction” is he most likely referring?**
- 2. What details help introduce the contrast between West Egg and East Egg?**
- 3. Which words help develop a sense of Tom Buchanan’s character?**
- 4. What are your first impressions of Daisy Buchanan?**
- 5. Why is Nick’s instinct to “telephone immediately for the police”?**

**6. Why does Daisy hope her daughter will be a beautiful little fool?**

**7. What effect does the introduction of Gatsby produce?**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**  
***THE GREAT GATSBY***  
**CHAPTER 1**

- 1. Early in Chapter 1, the narrator says, “Only Gatsby . . . was exempt from my reaction.” To what “reaction” is he most likely referring?**
  - narrator says there came a point when his capacity for “tolerance” and “reserving judgements” reached its limit
  - response to people in the East
  - “riotous excursions” vs. “moral attention”
  
- 2. What details help introduce the contrast between West Egg and East Egg?**
  - hints of “new money” (West Egg): “less fashionable,” “colossal affair,” “imitation of some Hôtel de Ville in Normandy,” “millionaires”
  - hints of “old money” (East Egg): “fashionable East Egg,” “cheerful red and white Georgian Colonial mansion”
  
- 3. Which words help develop a sense of Tom Buchanan’s character?**
  - “sturdy”
  - “hard mouth”
  - “arrogant eyes”
  - “enormous power”
  - “cruel body”
  - “gruff husky tenor”
  - “paternal contempt”
  
- 4. What are your first impressions of Daisy Buchanan?**
  - “absurd, charming little laugh”
  - murmurs to make people lean toward her
  - “low, thrilling voice”
  - “bright eyes and a bright passionate mouth”
  - frivolous conversations
  
- 5. Why is Nick’s instinct to “telephone immediately for the police”?**
  - Midwestern values
  - hints of conflict and infidelity in the Buchanans’ marriage
  
- 6. Why does Daisy hope her daughter will be a beautiful little fool?**
  - beauty has social, financial advantages
  - ignorance would be preferable to Daisy’s painful understanding of Tom and her marriage
  
- 7. What effect does the introduction of Gatsby produce?**
  - mysterious—possibly trembling
  - looking at the green light
  - disappearing into darkness

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**READING QUIZ**  
***THE GREAT GATSBY***  
**CHAPTER 1**

**Directions:** Place the letter of the correct answer on the line beside each question number. For open-ended questions, write your answer in the space provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Nick's college acquaintances tended to confide in him because Nick
- A. was known for being able to keep a secret.
  - B. could be counted on for his wise advice.
  - C. was the most popular man on campus.
  - D. was not judgmental.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Nick says that the only person who was exempt from his own negative reaction in the end was
- A. Daisy.
  - B. Jordan.
  - C. Gatsby.
  - D. Tom.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Nick speculates that the highlight of Tom Buchanan's life so far is his
- A. excellence as a college football player.
  - B. purchase of a string of polo ponies.
  - C. winning the hand of the beautiful Daisy.
  - D. purchase of an enormous mansion in fashionable East Egg.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. When Nick first encounters Daisy and Jordan, the two women are sitting on a couch
- A. playing a game.
  - B. reading magazines.
  - C. doing nothing at all.
  - D. gossiping.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Tom recommends a book that has made him fearful about the future of
- A. the oil business.
  - B. the white race.
  - C. America's position in the world.
  - D. the stock market.

\_\_\_\_\_6. Nick’s instinct “to telephone immediately for the police” is brought on by

- A. Daisy’s blaming Tom for her black and blue knuckle.
- B. Tom’s arrogance about the superiority of his stables.
- C. Tom’s receiving phone calls from his mistress.
- D. Jordan’s insistence on eavesdropping on Tom’s conversation.

\_\_\_\_\_7. Daisy tells Nick she hopes her daughter will be

- A. successful in marriage.
- B. a beautiful fool.
- C. a golfer like Jordan.
- D. happy and intelligent.

\_\_\_\_\_8. Daisy’s attitude toward life could best be described as

- A. curious.
- B. idealistic.
- C. adventurous.
- D. cynical.

\_\_\_\_\_9. What rumor have Tom and Daisy heard about Nick?

- A. He is engaged to be married.
- B. He was forced to come East because of a scandal.
- C. He was set up in the bond business by a family friend.
- D. He is too poor to be able to live in East Egg.

\_\_\_\_\_10. In Nick’s first encounter with Gatsby, Gatsby’s behavior could best be described as

- A. suspicious.
- B. neighborly.
- C. mysterious.
- D. scornful.



## **OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS**

**1.** What impression of Tom Buchanan is created in this chapter? Support your answer with at least two examples.

**2.** How did Nick come to know both Tom and Daisy?

**READING QUIZ ANSWER KEY**  
***THE GREAT GATSBY***  
**CHAPTER 1**

Note: Page numbers on which answers can be found are included in parentheses.

1. D was not judgmental. (5)
2. C Gatsby. (6)
3. A excellence as a college football player. (10)
4. C doing nothing at all. (12-13)
5. B the white race. (17)
6. C Tom's receiving phone calls from his mistress. (20)
7. B a beautiful fool. (21)
8. D cynical. (21-22)
9. A He is engaged to be married. (24)
10. C mysterious. (25-26)

Open-ended questions—suggested responses

1. A good answer will focus on Nick's descriptions of Tom in which he uses such words as "supercilious," "scornful," "haughty," and "cruel." Examples might include Tom's moving Nick around his property as if Nick were a chess piece, Daisy's reference to Tom as a "hulking brute" who bruised her knuckles, Tom's rather blatant flaunting of his affair by receiving telephone calls from his mistress during dinner, Tom's racist remarks about the need to preserve the superiority of the white race, and Tom's dismissive remark about Nick's bond company ("Never heard of them").
2. Nick knew Tom from their college days at New Haven (Yale). Nick is Daisy's cousin.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**VOCABULARY QUIZ**  
***THE GREAT GATSBY***  
**CHAPTERS 1-3**

**Directions:** Beside each sentence below, place the letter of the vocabulary word that best fits the context. Each letter will be used only once.

A. affectation  
B. apparition  
C. complacency  
D. condescend  
E. corroborate  
F. deftly  
G. epigram

H. feign  
I. fractiousness  
J. incessantly  
K. incredulously  
L. permeate  
M. poignant  
N. prodigality

O. regal  
P. repel  
Q. row  
R. saunter  
S. strident  
T. superciliously  
U. vehemently

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Janis had to \_\_\_\_\_ surprise when she opened the gift from her parents because her little sister, unable to keep a secret, had already told her what she was getting for her birthday.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. When Joe began telling his friends yet another tale about having been abducted by aliens aboard a spaceship, they rolled their eyes and shook their heads \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Well aware of Carl's \_\_\_\_\_, the teacher cautioned him to be on his best behavior during their trip to the museum.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. During the drought, daily lawn watering came to be seen by many as inexcusable \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. There wasn't a dry eye in the theater after the \_\_\_\_\_ ending in which mother and child were reunited at long last.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. After a week during which it rained \_\_\_\_\_, the sun's appearance was greeted with jubilation.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. When Donna began speaking with a British accent in an attempt to be more like her favorite actress, her friends thought this \_\_\_\_\_ was ridiculous.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8. When a violent \_\_\_\_\_ broke out over the questionable call, the team manager urged his players to control their tempers.

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. We weren't sure whether to believe Neal hit a hole in one, but several eyewitnesses were able to \_\_\_\_\_ his claim.

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. Soon after the cookies went into the oven, their mouth-watering aroma began to \_\_\_\_\_ the entire house.

\_\_\_\_\_ 11. We set aside an entire day for our trip to the zoo so that we could \_\_\_\_\_ through the park and not miss any of the exhibits.

\_\_\_\_\_ 12. The real estate agent advised the sellers to repaint their house because she thought the hot pink color would likely \_\_\_\_\_ many buyers before they even went inside.

\_\_\_\_\_ 13. With one quick move, the player \_\_\_\_\_ stripped the ball from the opponent's hands.

\_\_\_\_\_ 14. The tennis star said her secret was never to allow herself to develop a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ no matter how many championships she won. She was aware that many talented competitors were intent on defeating her.

\_\_\_\_\_ 15. The child \_\_\_\_\_ denied raiding the cookie jar, but he could not explain the chocolate smudges on his face.

\_\_\_\_\_ 16. The candidate's shockingly \_\_\_\_\_ response to his opponent's remarks emphasized the intensity of their disagreements.

\_\_\_\_\_ 17. Every day, our Spanish teacher writes a clever \_\_\_\_\_ on the board for us to translate.

\_\_\_\_\_ 18. The woman smiled \_\_\_\_\_, making it obvious that she considered herself superior to everyone else in the room.

\_\_\_\_\_ 19. The approaching figure looked like an eerie \_\_\_\_\_ as it moved through the fog.

\_\_\_\_\_ 20. The \_\_\_\_\_ manner in which the queen carried herself was a natural result of her more than fifty years as a monarch.

\_\_\_\_\_ 21. Occasionally, my older brother will \_\_\_\_\_ to us younger kids and grant us the privilege of entering his room.

**VOCABULARY QUIZ ANSWER KEY**  
***THE GREAT GATSBY***  
**CHAPTERS 1-3**

1. H feign
2. K incredulously
3. I fractiousness
4. N prodigality
5. M poignant
6. J incessantly
7. A affectation
8. Q row
9. E corroborate
10. L permeate
11. R saunter
12. P repel
13. F deftly
14. C complacency
15. U vehemently
16. S strident
17. G epigram
18. T superciliously
19. B apparition
20. O regal
21. D condescend