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*THE GREAT GATSBY*

Chapter One

*Comprehension Check*

***Directions****: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions. Be sure to use your Note-Taking chart to keep important notes for each chapter and to help you answer the Comprehension Check questions.*

1. From what point of view is the story being told? In what tense?

2. Chapter 1 begins with a quote: “Whenever you feel like criticizing anyone, just remember that all the people in this world haven’t had the advantages that you’ve had.” What does this quote mean? What conclusions/predictions can you make about the narrator from this quote?

3. List 5-7 important details that we learn about the narrator from this chapter.

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4. How does Nick compare East and West Egg? Who is Nick’s neighbor? How does Nick describe his neighbor’s house?

5. Describe Tom in 3-5 sentences.

6. Describe Daisy in 3-5 sentences.

7. About what has Tom been reading? What does this book’s philosophy indicate about Tom’s views? What does this say about American society at the time?

8. What do we learn about Tom from the phone call? How does Daisy deal with the interruption?

9. What does Daisy mean when she says “And I hope she’ll be a fool—that’s the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool”?

10. What rumor had Daisy heard about Nick?

11. Describe Tom and Daisy’s relationship.

12. What strange sight does Nick see at the end of Chapter 1?

\*13. What are the advantages/disadvantages of having Nick narrate the story of *The Great Gatsby*, rather than having Gatsby tell the story himself?

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*THE GREAT GATSBY*

Chapter Two

*Comprehension Check*

***Directions****: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions. Be sure to use your Note-Taking chart to keep important notes for each chapter and to help you answer the Comprehension Check questions.*

1. Describe the valley of ashes. What might the ashes symbolize?

2. Describe the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg. What might they represent (or symbolize)?

3. Describe Tom’s “girl” in 3-4 sentences.

4. What business transaction is going on between Tom and Mr. Wilson?

5. Compare/contrast the personalities and physical characteristics of Myrtle and Daisy. Be sure to list 3-5 similarities and/or differences.

|  |
| --- |
| **Myrtle & Daisy:** |
| Similarities- Physically | Differences- Physically |
| Similarities- Personalities | Differences- Personalities |

6. Why do you think Tom is attracted to Myrtle?

7. What is the lie Tom told Catherine? Why do you think he lied?

8. Describe Mr. and Mrs. Wilson’s relationship. How did Myrtle know she made a “mistake” when she married Wilson?

9. Explain how Tom and Myrtle met.

10. What does Tom do to Myrtle when she repeats Daisy’s name? What do you think of Tom’s reaction? Why do you think he did it? Was it appropriate? What hints from the first chapter indicated Tom was capable of this behavior?

11. Why is the ending of Chapter 2 so disjointed? What had Nick been doing all evening that might have caused this strange narrative?

\*12. Make a comparison of the homes of Nick, Gatsby, Tom and Daisy Buchanan, and George and Myrtle Wilson. How does each home reflect the personality of its owners?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Nick’s Home: | Gatsby’s Home:  | Tom & Daisy’s Home:  | George & Myrtle’s Home:  |
| Reflects Personality:  | Reflects Personality: | Reflects Personality: | Reflects Personality: |

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*THE GREAT GATSBY*

Chapter Three

*Comprehension Check*

***Directions****: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions. Be sure to use your Note-Taking chart to keep important notes for each chapter and to help you answer the Comprehension Check questions.*

1. In 3-4 sentences, describe the scene at Gatsby’s house on the weekends.

2. What arrives at Gatsby’s house every Friday? What leaves on Monday? What does this tell you about how long Gatsby’s parties last?

3. How does Nick receive his invitation to Gatsby’s party? Why was his invitation unusual?

4. What is Nick’s immediate impression of the party guests?

5. What happened to the girl who tore her dress the last time she was at Gatsby’s?

6. What rumors have been circulating about Gatsby?

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7. What illegal activity takes place at Gatsby’s party? Why is it illegal?

8. What discovery has the Owl-Eyed man made in Gatsby’s library? What does his discovery say about this sector of American society in the 1920s?

9. What is ironic about Jordan’s statement comparing large and small parties?

10. On what does Owl-Eyes blame the accident after Gatsby’s party? What is ironic about his claim?

11. What “haunting” feeling does Nick sometimes have? What does his description of his feelings and the indication that others feel this way say about American society or life in the city at the time?

12. How does Nick feel about Jordan? What does he finally conclude about her? What does he finally conclude about himself?

\*13. Explain how the description of the parties/gatherings contributes to the creation of the characters who attend them.

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