

The Great Gatsby Post Discussion Guide

The following ideas and concepts have all been conveyed and covered in the Preface, Novel, and Publisher's Afterword of *The Great Gatsby*. Through actively reading and thinking about these ideas during the unit, hopefully you have understood the many themes and concepts presented in the literature that we read.

Directions: Read and discuss the following questions in your group. Each person in the group should provide some commentary on the following concepts and ideas found in the novel, the Preface, & the Publisher's Afterword. Responses should be a minimum of **three** sentences and should provide insight from the group as a whole.

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3 pnts

1. Explain how dissatisfaction plays a part in *The Great Gatsby*. Use specific examples to explain your answer – no quotes needed.

3 pnts

2. Matthew J. Bruccoli, in the preface, says that *The Great Gatsby* is often referred to being the "the great American novel." Why do you think the novel is thought of this way by so many?

3 pnts

3. In the preface, Bruccoli emphasizes the theme of time and mentions how it encompasses the related themes of mutability and loss. Do you agree with his comparison of these themes? Explain your answer.

3 pnts

4. There is quite a bit of commentary in the publisher's afterword about the cover art for *The Great Gatsby*. Look at the artwork and comment on its symbolism and significance to the novel.

3 pnts

5. After reading the publisher's afterword, do you agree with Perkins's criticism of Gatsby as a vague character (pgs. 199-200)?

5 pnts

6. After reading *The Great Gatsby*, explain what you think Fitzgerald is saying about the American Dream. Do you agree with Fitzgerald's view of the American Dream? Response should be at least **five** sentences in length.