Name:

Period: Great Gatsby - Soundtrack Analysis

F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel The Great Gatsby has been portrayed in cinema a number of times since the 1940's. Each version of the classic story has had its own take on Fitzgerald's plot and themes. The most recent version of *The Great Gatsby* was directed by Baz Luhrmann in 2013. Baz Luhrmann's The Great Gatsby has many modern touches including its soundtrack, which mixes touches of 1920's jazz and music style with contemporary beats and melodies. Read the lyrics to following songs from the 2013 soundtrack and analyze how each song ties in with the plot, the characters, and the themes of The Great Gatsby.

Step 1 - Listen & annotate lyrics - Listen to the songs while you read the lyrics and take notes in the margins on the effect of the musical and literary tone, poetic and literary devices, and general themes and main ideas. Think about how the ideas from the lyrics associate with the plot, the characters, and the themes from The Great Gatsby. Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words. +3 points per song +18 total (Participation).

Step 2 - Make connections to the book — Following each set of song lyrics will be a page for you to display the connections that you have discovered between the song and the story. Using complete sentences and academic language, explain how the lyrics relate to different aspects of the story/book. Write a minimum three sentence explanation of how the song relates to the story. Connections will be scored based on the criteria from the Reading Notes Rubric. Utilize academic verbs and tone words to establish maturity of voice. (4 points per explanation). +24 points (Participation)

Step 3 - Make connections to the movie - While watching Baz Luhrmann's The Great Gatsby take notes on the effect the song has in the movie. You should comment on how the songs are used and how the songs themselves add to the overall portraval of the characters, plot, and themes in the movie. Make sure your movie notes are differentiated from your book notes (use a different color or writing utensil). Listen to the songs first so that you recognize the songs when they appear in the movie. Many of the songs are not in the movie for a long time. Write a minimum three sentence explanation on the effect the song has in the movie (4 points per explanation). Explanations should be written on the analysis page following the lyrics page. Be sure to distinguish and label your explanations. +24 points (Participation)

Step 4 - Write an analysis - Type a minimum 600 word essay examining at least three of the songs relationships to the characters, plot, and themes of *The Great Gatsby* and the rhetorical effect they have in the movie. You should compare and contrast the songs, their connection to the story, and their effect in the movie. You are required to discuss at least three of the songs in your analysis. Your analysis should use direct quotes from the song lyrics and make direct connections to the book and movie. You do NOT need quotes from the book. You should include word count at the bottom of your essay.

The analysis should be submitted to turnitin.com by Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> – Hardcopy due Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Grading will follow the basic AP writing rubric. +50 points (Writing)

## **Over The Love**

FLORENCE AND THE MACHINE

(Plays as Nick and Jordan are leaving Gatsby's Party)

Ever since I was a child

I've turned it over in my mind

I sang by the piano

Tore my yellow dress and

Cried and cried and cried

Now to un-see what I've seen

To undo what has been done

Turn off all the lights

Let the morning come, come

Now there's green light in my eyes

And my lover on my mind

And I sing from the piano

Tear my yellow dress and

Cry and cry and cry

Over the love of you

All this champagne drunken home

Against the current of gold

Everybody see I love him

Cause it's a feeling that you get

When the afternoon is set

On the bridge into the city

<u>Annotate</u>: Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words. And now to un-see what I've seen

To undo what has been done

Turn off all the lights

Let the morning come

Now there's green light in my eyes

And my lover on my mind

And I sing from the piano

Tear my yellow dress and

Cry and cry and cry

Because you're a hard soul to save

With an ocean in my way

But I'll get around it, I'll get around it

Cause you're a hard soul to save

With an ocean in the way

But I'll get around it

Now there's green light in my eyes

And my lover on my mind

And I sing from the piano

Tear my yellow dress and

Cry and cry and cry

Over the love of you

I can see the green light, I can see it in your eyes

I can see the green light, I can see it in your eyes

I can see the green light, I can see it in your eyes

I can see the green light, I can see it in your eyes

Connections to the story/book (4 points):

# Young and Beautiful

### LANA DEL REY

(Plays several times: while Jordan tells Nick about Daisy & Gatsby's history, at one of Gatsby's parties, during Daisy's meeting with Gatsby at Nick's house)

I've seen the world Done it all, had my cake now Diamonds, brilliant, and Bel-Air now Hot summer nights, mid-July When you and I were forever wild The crazy days, the city lights The way you'd play with me like a child Will you still love me when I'm no longer young and beautiful? Will you still love me when I got nothing but my aching soul? I know you will, I know you will, I know that you will Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful I've seen the world, lit it up as my stage now Channeling angels in the new age now Hot summer days, rock and roll The way you'd play for me at your show And all the ways I got to know Your pretty face and electric soul Will you still love me when I'm no longer young and beautiful? Will you still love me when I got nothing but my aching soul? I know you will, I know you will, I know that you will Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful Dear Lord when I get to heaven Please let me bring my man When he comes tell me that you'll let him in Father tell me if you can Oh that grace, oh that body Oh that face makes me wanna party He's my sun, he makes me shine like diamonds Will you still love me when I'm no longer young and beautiful? Will you still love me when I got nothing but my aching soul? I know you will, I know you will, I know that you will Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful? Will you still love me when I'm not young and beautiful?

Annotate: Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words.

Connections to the story/book (4 points):

### Where the Wind Blows

### COCO 0

(Plays at the Barbershop/Lounge during lunch as Tom arrives and Gatsby leaves)

I just want to have a good time

Can't I have fun for the rest of my life?

Just go where the wind blows

Here he comes, yeah he caught my eye

And we made love to the moonlight

Just go where the wind blows

I know he didn't come to me

No one, no one

You can't care, if he's just strung out here

Just because I am more single than anyone

It doesn't mean that I was searching for a perfect pair

O, yes, we all need someone

But we say we don't need no one

Yes, we all need someone

But sometimes we need that interference

Cause we all need someone

Yes, we all need to be ourselves

Yes, we all need someone

Yet sometimes it's good when we get that interference Annotations +3

<u>Annotate</u>: Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words.

Connections to the story/book (4 points):

# Crazy in Love

EMELI SANDÉ

(Plays when Gatsby comes over to Nick's house to get ready for his meeting with Daisy and Klipspringer pays it on the organ while Nick and Daisy dance in Gatsby's house)

I look and stare so deep in your eyes I touch on you more and more every time When you leave I'm beggin you not to go Call your name two, three times in a row Such a funny thing for me to try to explain How I'm feeling and my pride is the one to blame Yeah, cause I know I don't understand Just how your love can do what no one else can Got me lookin so crazy right now Your love's got me lookin so crazy right now (your love) Got me lookin so crazy right now your touch's Got me lookin so crazy right now (your touch) Got me hoping you page me right now your kiss's Got me hoping you save me right now Lookin so crazy your love's got me lookin Got me lookin so crazy your love When I talk to my friends so quietly "Who does he think he is?" look at what you've done to me Tennis shoes don't even need to buy a new dress You ain't there, ain't nobody else to impress It's the way that you know what I thought I knew It's the beat that my heart skips when I'm with you Yeah, but I still don't understand Just how your love can do what no one else can Cause your love got the best of me Baby, Your blind if you can't see Baby, you got me, got me You got me

<u>Annotate</u>: Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words.

Connections to the story/book (4 points):

## Love is Blindness

JACK WHITE (Plays when Myrtle is struck by the car)

Love is blindness, I don't want to see Won't you wrap the night around me? Oh, my heart, love is blindness I'm in a parked car, on a crowded street You see your love made complete Thread is ripping, the knot is slipping Love is blindness Love is clockworks and cold steel Fingers too numb to feel Squeeze the handle, blow out the candle Love is blindness Love is blindness, I don't want to see Won't you wrap the night around me? Oh, my love Blindness A little death without mourning No call and no warning Baby, a dangerous idea That almost makes sense Love is drowning in a deep well All the secrets, and no one to tell Take the money, honey... Blindness

<u>Annotate</u>: Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words.

Connections to the story/book (4 points):

# Heart's a Mess

### GOTYE

(Plays possibly right before Gatsby's death and during the end credits)

#### Pick apart

The pieces of your heart

And let me peer inside

Let me in

Where only your thoughts have been

Let me occupy your mind

- As you do mine
- Your heart's a mess
- You won't admit to it
- It makes no sense

But I'm desperate to connect

And you, you can't live like this

You have lost

- Too much love
- To fear, doubt and distrust
- (It's not enough)
- You just threw away the key
- To your heart
- You don't get burned
- (Cause nothing gets through)
- It makes it easier
- (Easier on you)
- But that much more difficult for me
- To make you see...
- Love ain't fair
- So there you are
- My love
- Love ain't safe
- You won't get hurt if you stay chaste
- So you can wait
- But I don't wanna waste my love

<u>Annotate</u>: Highlight, underline, circle, and comment on the lyrics to show your thoughts about each song. You can use shorthand to make notes and jot down ideas. Commentary can be on the music as well as the words.

Connections to the story/book (4 points):