

Name(s) _____

Period _____ Due Date ___/___/___

The Great Gatsby

“If there’s anything you want, just ask for it, old sport.”

~ Jay Gatsby

Essential Guidelines:

- clearly state the question you are addressing
- properly head your paper
- edit carefully and cite plenty of evidence
- *please* use the Google Doc provided in our Google Classroom
- be sure to properly submit your final draft via the Google Classroom
- you *may* print a hard copy following our class guidelines and turn it in to the class basket, but I prefer the Google Doc

Part One – Literary Connections: Pick *one* of the following questions below and answer it as thoroughly as possible in 2 ¶s or less. Please cite evidence from the film and any other applicable source. Use examples from the film and/or other related films that would provide supporting evidence.

1. Consider and describe the **mood** and **tone** of this film. Does the **mood** change? Is there anything unique about the **tone** of this film?
2. **Dramatic irony** refers to a situation in which events or facts not known to a character on screen are known to another character and/or the audience. How is **dramatic irony** used in this film? Cite and explain at least two examples.
3. Cite at least two strong examples of **symbolism** used in this film. What purpose did these **symbols** have and were they effective?

Part Two – Cinematic Connections: Pick *one* of the following questions below and answer it as thoroughly as possible in 2 ¶s or less. Please cite evidence from the film and any other applicable source. Use examples from the film and/or other related films that would provide supporting evidence.

4. Discuss a memorable scene in terms of **Camera Placement: Distance from Object**. Refer to your vocabulary handout. Why were these shots used in this scene? What did the shots mean? Do you agree with the director’s shot selection?
5. Discuss a memorable scene in terms of **Camera Placement: Angle to Object**. Refer to your vocabulary handout. Why were these shots used in this scene? What did the shots mean? Do you agree with the director’s shot selection?
6. There are a lot of special effects used in this film – particularly the use of **fast-forward** and **slow-motion**. Why do you think the director used these two techniques so much? Was it effective?
7. We know that there are essentially **three types of movement** in film: 1) the viewer’s eye searches and scans the screen, 2) characters or objects move in relation to the frame, and 3) the camera moves across, into or away from its own field of vision. Cite a memorable scene from this film for each of these **three types of movement**.

FILM ANALYSIS

The Great Gatsby Assignment · DeMiero

Part Three – Analysis: Pick *one* of the following questions below and answer it as thoroughly as possible in about 5 ¶s. Depth of thought and analysis is what counts here, *not* hot air. Please cite evidence from the film and any other applicable source.

8. **Foreshadowing.** The overt use of foreshadowing exists throughout this film. In fact, the ending of the movie is alluded to numerous times during the course of the plot in several ways. So, choose your top three examples of foreshadowing, list them and briefly explain why each is so effective. Then in a more general response, explain whether you think that the overall use of foreshadowing in this film was effective. If so, why? If not, why?
9. **Connections.** Some of you have read F. Scott Fitzgerald’s “The Great Gatsby.” Some of you may have seen other film adaptations, too. If you have, write a short essay **comparing** or **contrasting** Baz Luhrmann’s film with either the original book or another film adaptation.
10. **Motif.** Motifs are recurring structures, contrasts, or literary devices that can help to develop and inform the piece’s major themes. Discuss the different motifs and functions that the following objects embody during “Gatsby.” Part of the function of a motif might be the effect it has on us or the contribution it makes to the atmosphere of the film: A) Gatsby’s yellow car, B) the billboard with the eyes, and C) Gatsby’s continual use of the phrase “old sport.”
11. **Narration.** The story of Gatsby really isn’t Jay Gatsby’s story. Rather it’s Gatsby’s story told through the experiences of Nick Carraway. What impact does this have on the film adaptation of this story? How do you assess Tobey Maguire’s portrayal of Carraway? If you know of another great film that uses this narration technique effectively, compare or contrast “Gatsby” to that film.
12. **Your Choice.** Got a better question? Submit it and the best of the best will be used in future editions of this assignment. Of course, you also have to provide an essay response, too.

Notes:

Released2013
Director:Baz Luhrmann
Screenplay:Baz Luhrmann
.....& Craig Pearce
Music:Craig Armstrong

Characters:

Leonardo DiCprioJay Gatsby
Elizbeth DebickiJordan Baker
Tobey MaguireNick Carraway
Carey MulliganDaisy Buchanan
Joel EdgertonTom Buchanan
(see IMDB.com for more)