

Name _____

Gatsby's Glamorous Beginnings: Chapters 1 and 2

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The contrast between the glamorous parties in West Egg and the desolate Valley of Ashes highlights the themes of excess and moral decay in the 1920s. It shows how society indulges in extravagance while ignoring the suffering and decay around them.
2. Myrtle Wilson aspires to escape her life in the Valley of Ashes and be part of the glamorous world of the rich. She sees Tom Buchanan as her ticket to a better life.
3. Nick Carraway's role as the narrator provides an inside view of the characters and events, as well as his moral commentary on the society he observes.
4. Gatsby hosts extravagant parties in the hope that Daisy will attend one of them, allowing him to reunite with her. These parties contribute to the story's atmosphere of excess and mystery while also serving as a backdrop for the characters' interactions and conflicts.

