

Name _____

Unraveling 'The Great Gatsby': Purpose and Analysis

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. (Answers may vary, but should demonstrate understanding of the concepts discussed in the questions.) Jay Gatsby's pursuit of the American Dream shapes his character into a determined and optimistic individual. His relentless quest for success and love drives the plot of the novel, showcasing the potential for both achievement and tragedy in the pursuit of one's dreams.
2. Daisy Buchanan's character reflects the theme of moral decay as she indulges in a shallow and materialistic lifestyle. Her actions, including her affair with Gatsby, reveal the corrupting influence of wealth and privilege on her character.
3. F. Scott Fitzgerald's use of first-person narration through Nick Carraway enhances the reader's understanding by providing a close and personal perspective on the characters and events. Nick's observations and commentary offer insight into the complexities of human nature, adding depth to the narrative.
4. The themes in "The Great Gatsby," such as the pursuit of wealth, moral decay, and the contrast between illusion and reality, remain relevant today. The novel's critique of excesses and the shallowness of materialism continues to resonate in a society where success and appearances are often prioritized over integrity and authenticity.

