



The Great Gatsby Cornucopia Paper
A.P. Prep American Studies

Cornucopia: a curved goat's horn overflowing with fruit and ears of grain that is used as a decorative motif emblematic of **abundance** (Websters).

Required: Formalist Analysis (F.A. examines the text as an object unto itself, and it conceptualizes literature as a structural entity to be dissected.)

Writing Task—2 pages: Choose a significant passage (60-80 lines) from The Great Gatsby. Annotate it and underline important words and sentences. Then, in an essay, analyze how Fitzgerald uses tone, diction, imagery and symbolism to reveal theme, relationships between men and women, or class tensions.

OR

Writing Task—2 pages: Choose an intriguing scene from the text and rewrite it from the perspective and voice of a character besides Nick (one-page.) Write a one-page formalist analysis of your own writing.

Choose ONE Additional Writing Task:

Option A Pragmatic Analysis (P.A. examines the relationship between the text and its reader, and it conceptualizes literature as a meaning making transaction between the text and the reader's expectations and responses)

Task:

Create a personal piece of artwork responding to The Great Gatsby's themes. You can choose your medium: photography, drawing, film, painting, poetry, drama, lyrics, or dance. In addition to your artwork, you must also include an artist's statement (1 page typed) connecting your project to a theme or themes from The Great Gatsby.

Option B Mimetic Analysis (M.A. examines the relationship between the text and the larger world, and conceptualizes literature as a product, reflection or "imitation" of the larger world or social structures.)

Writing Task—2 pages: Analyze The Great Gatsby as an authentic document reflecting the Roaring Twenties. Consider the following historical topics for research: the aftermath of WWI, the effects of prohibition, flapper culture and the first wave of feminism, the automobile's significance, and material excess and a

bullish stock market leading to collapse. Be sure to compare and contrast events in the novel to 1920's historical events. Cite both the novel and your research.

Option C Expressive Analysis (EA examines the relationship between the text and its author and it conceptualizes literature as an expression of its author's thoughts, feelings and experiences.)

Writing Task—2 pages: Research the love affair and marriage of Fitzgerald and his wife, Zelda. Compare and contrast the author's love affair and marriage with the fictional Daisy and Gatsby's love affair. If you come across another possible inspiration for Daisy, mention her. Cite both the novel and your research.

Option D Meta-Textual Analysis (MTA examines the relationship between the text and other texts and it conceptualizes literature as a product of tradition and genre expectations.)

Writing Task—2 pages: Read a Fitzgerald short story or watch *The Mysterious Case of Benjamin Button*, based on a Fitzgerald short story. Write a critique of the short story or film. Be sure to compare within your critique the short story to The Great Gatsby.

OR

Writing Task-2 pages: Read T.S. Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock." Argue whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Prufrock and Gatsby have similar characters. Use at least three pieces of textual evidence to support an original thesis.

Due Dates:

February 13th—1/2 page proposal. Include which assignments you are going to write and how you will approach them.

February 24th—Draft #1 and Peer Response

February 27th—Final Draft due and Cornucopia Paper / Project Expo in class.