

## Lesson 1

# The Great Gatsby

Chapters 1-2

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## Lesson 1 Directions

### Pre-Reading

1. Preview (read through) the study questions for *The Great Gatsby* Chapters 1-2.
2. Complete the Vocabulary Worksheet for *The Great Gatsby* Chapters 1-2.

### Reading

1. Read *The Great Gatsby* Chapters 1-2.
2. Keep your study questions in mind as you read.

### Post-Reading

1. Answer all of the study guide questions for Chapters 1-2.
2. Complete the Reader Response Assignment for Chapters 1-2.

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## Vocabulary Chapters 1-2 Part I

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the bold words mean in the space provided.

1. This isn't just an **epigram** - life is much more successfully looked at from a single window, after all.
2. Now he was a sturdy, straw haired man of thirty with a rather hard mouth and a **supercilious** manner.
3. She was only **extemporizing** but a stirring warmth flowed from her as if her heart was trying to come out to you concealed in one of those breathless, thrilling words.
4. I knew now why her face was familiar--its pleasing contemptuous expression had looked out at me from many **rotogravure** pictures of the sporting life at . . . Palm Beach.
5. Something was making him nibble at the edge of stale ideas as if his sturdy physical egotism no longer nourished her **peremptory** heart.
6. Evidently some wild wag of an **oculist** set them there to fatten his practice . . . and then sank down himself into eternal blindness or forgot them and moved away.
7. The only building in sight was a small block of yellow brick sitting on the edge of the waste land, a sort of compact Main Street ministering to it and **contiguous** to absolutely nothing.
8. The intense vitality that had been so remarkable in the garage was converted into impressive **hauteur**.

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## Vocabulary Chapters 1-2 Part II

Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

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|------------------|--|
| 1. epigram       | A. dictatorial; offensively self-assured           |
| 2. supercilious  | B. adjacent; sharing an edge                       |
| 3. extemporizing | C. haughtiness in bearing and attitude             |
| 4. rotogravure   | D. printed material, such as a newspaper           |
| 5. peremptory    | E. a short, witty poem expressing a single thought |
| 6. oculist       | F. feeling or showing haughty disdain              |
| 7. contiguous    | G. a physician who treats diseases of the eyes     |
| 8. hauteur       | H. to perform without prior preparation            |

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## Study Questions Chapters 1-2

1. How does the narrator describe Gatsby?
2. From where did the narrator come and why?
3. Describe the narrator's house.
4. Describe the Buchanans' house.
5. How does Nick know Daisy and Tom?

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## Study Questions Chapters 1-2 (2)

6. Describe Tom. What is our impression of him in Chapter 1?
7. What kind of person is Daisy?
8. What did Miss Baker tell Nick about Tom?
9. When asked about her daughter, what does Daisy say?
10. How is Gatsby introduced into the novel?
11. What is the "valley of ashes"?

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## Study Questions Chapters 1-2 (3)

12. What are the "eyes of Dr. T. J. Eckleburg?"
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
13. Who did Tom take Nick to meet?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
14. Identify Myrtle and George Wilson.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
15. What did Mrs. Wilson buy while she was out with Tom and Nick?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
16. What was at 158th Street?

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## Study Questions Chapters 1-2 (4)

17. Identify Catherine and Mr. & Mrs. McKee.
18. What does Mr. McKee tell Nick about Gatsby?
19. What reason did Myrtle give for marrying George Wilson?
20. What did Tom do to Myrtle when she mentioned Daisy's name?



## Reader Response Entry Chapters 1-2

In the space below, write a substantial response to the chapters of the book you have just read. It could be your thoughts on one of the following: an idea presented, an event, a character's actions or attitude, a topic related in some way to something presented in this section of the novel, a response to a particular passage that stood out to you as you read, or you could write a creative response like a poem or song lyrics as long as it is relevant in some way to what you have just read.