

English Grade 9 Summer Assignment

Read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Then choose one of the following prompts to write a 5-paragraph essay:

1. Some critics view this novel as the quintessential American novel. The main theme of the novel is the death of what is known as the American Dream, which is about the rags-to-riches opportunity that America supposedly provides each and every citizen. Explain how the novel does or does not demonstrate the death of the American Dream. Does the novel show that the American Dream is corrupted by the desire for wealth? Use examples from the text to support your thesis.
2. Trace the development of the narrator, Nick Carraway. How does he change, why are these changes significant, and how do these changes relate to the themes of the novel?

GUIDELINES:

Minimum 500 words

This should be an original essay (no research to be used). **This is your own interpretation.**

Cite specific textual examples to support your thesis. **Minimum of 3.**

Use correct MLA format for citations from the text

Treat this assignment as a formal academic essay.

DUE DATES:

First draft due the Friday of the first week of school. Final draft will be due shortly afterward. The total of the two drafts will be worth 10% of the grade for the first marking period.