

Chapter Nine

Comprehension Check

Directions: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions. Be sure to use your Note-Taking chart to keep important notes for each chapter and to help you answer the Comprehension Check questions. Use a separate piece of paper to answer each question in complete sentences.

1. Why is Nick in charge of arranging Gatsby's funeral? Why is this surprising?
2. How does Henry Gatz hear about the funeral?
3. Why does Klipspringer call Gatsby's house?
4. Why does Mr. Gatz show Nick Gatsby's schedule from his youth? What does this show you about the kind of person Gatsby was meant to be? Why do you think this was an important/unimportant part of the novel?
5. Why do you think Fitzgerald included that the owl-eyed man came to Gatsby's funeral? Why do you think the owl-eyed man might have come?
6. What happens to Nick and Jordan's relationship?
7. What had Tom told George about the car the afternoon of the shooting? Why did Tom feel justified?
8. Do you agree with Nick's statement "They were careless people, Tom and Daisy—they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made..."? Justify your response.
- *9. In his final comment, Nick says: "Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter—tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther... And one fine morning— So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past"? What does this quote mean? Why is this quote significant to the theme of the American Dream in the novel?