



## Plot Summary Reference Sheet

### The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

*This quick reference sheet helps students review the structure, narrative movement, character dynamics, and major story developments of the novel. It is designed as an academic revision tool so readers can quickly understand how the story progresses and why each stage matters.*

### 1. Narrative Structure of the Novel

Story Stage	What Happens in the Narrative	Why It Matters
Introduction	The narrator arrives in a wealthy community and becomes aware of mysterious rumors surrounding his neighbor.	Introduces the social environment and the curiosity that drives the story.
Rising Curiosity	The narrator gradually learns about the luxurious lifestyle and reputation of a wealthy figure in the neighborhood.	Builds mystery around the central character and prepares readers for deeper revelations.
Emotional Reunion	Two characters reconnect after years of separation, bringing past emotions back into the present.	This moment strengthens the central dream that drives the main character's actions.
Conflict and Confrontation	Hidden tensions between characters begin to surface, especially involving power, love, and social status.	Reveals the fragile nature of relationships and exposes social hierarchies.

Tragic Resolution	A series of misunderstandings and emotional decisions lead to irreversible consequences.	Demonstrates how dreams, ambition, and reality collide in destructive ways.
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## 2. Character Relationship Map

Character	Relationship Network	Narrative Importance
Jay Gatsby	Connected to Daisy through past love and to Nick through friendship	Represents ambition, hope, and the pursuit of an idealized dream.
Daisy Buchanan	Married to Tom but emotionally tied to Gatsby	Symbolizes beauty, privilege, and emotional complexity.
Tom Buchanan	Husband of Daisy and rival to Gatsby	Represents established power and inherited wealth.
Nick Carraway	Friend, observer, and narrator	Serves as the moral observer who interprets the actions of others.

## 3. Social Worlds in the Story

Location	Social Meaning	Narrative Role
West Egg	Home of newly wealthy individuals	Represents ambition and people trying to rise in society.
East Egg	Residence of established wealthy families	Symbolizes tradition, privilege, and inherited status.
Industrial District	A gray, struggling environment between wealthy areas	Highlights the economic gap between social classes.

New York City	A place of freedom and secrecy	Many conflicts and dramatic events unfold here.
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## 4. Key Conflicts Driving the Story

Conflict Type	Description	Impact on the Plot
Emotional Conflict	Characters struggle between love, loyalty, and personal desires.	Creates tension between relationships.
Social Conflict	Differences between old wealth and new wealth influence respect and acceptance.	Shapes how characters view and judge one another.
Personal Identity	Some characters attempt to reinvent themselves or escape their past.	Drives ambition and motivates risky choices.
Moral Conflict	Several characters avoid responsibility for their actions.	Leads to tragic consequences and disappointment.

## 5. Character Motivation Snapshot

Character	Main Desire	Result
Gatsby	Achieve success and regain lost love	Devotes his life to a dream that ultimately fails.
Daisy	Maintain comfort and stability	Chooses security over emotional truth.
Tom	Maintain power and control	Protects his social position at any cost.

Nick	Understand the society around him	Learns difficult truths about wealth and morality.
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## 6. Literary Elements Students Should Notice

- **Narration Style:** The story is told through a first-person narrator, allowing readers to see events through a reflective perspective.
- **Atmosphere:** The novel moves between luxury, mystery, romance, and tragedy, reflecting the emotional journey of the characters.
- **Character Contrast:** Characters represent different attitudes toward wealth, love, and ambition, helping readers understand the broader message of the story.
- **Social Criticism:** The narrative subtly critiques how wealth and status can influence morality and relationships.

*The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald shows how dreams, ambition, and reality shape human choices, revealing both the hope and tragedy behind the pursuit of success.*