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American Studies English

***The Great Gatsby:* Survival Guide**

In our study of *The Great Gatsby* so far, we have learned that appearances can be deceiving. Since you have been studying the fictional world of *The Great Gatsby*, you are an expert on the major motifs, symbols, themes, and characters. As an expert, you will create a “Survival Guide” for people who are traveling to the fictional world of *The Great Gatsby* for the first time. What is the key information they should know about some of the major characters? What do certain elements of the setting really represent (motifs and symbols)? What words of wisdom would you provide for people before traveling to this place (theme)?

**Characters Symbols/Motifs Themes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| In this space, choose TWO characters from *Gatsby* and provide travelers with:1. A picture of the character or a symbolic image that represents him or her.
2. A description of the character.
3. Information about the character that goes beyond description. What is he or she really like?
 | In this space, choose THREE symbols or motifs from Gatsby. Provide travelers with:1. An image of the symbol or motif.
2. A description of the symbol or motif.
3. An explanation of the significance of the literary device. For example, if you choose to include the motif of time, it would look like this:

http://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQ6zMEqGNieTe5wN6eSauk7CBEfwt0OqaZz78EOXr7uDGQwtzciRg*The motif of time and clocks is prevalent throughout The Great Gatsby. One instance of this motif is when Gatsby meets Daisy at Nick’s. He is nervous and knocks over the broken clock. The broken clock is representative of stopped time and the fact that Gatsby’s infatuation with Daisy causes him to be stuck in the past.*  | In this space, complete the following:1. Provide a brief description about the lifestyle/habits of those who exist in Gatsby’s world.
2. Provide a word of advice about how to survive in the culture of the text. Your words of wisdom are essentially a theme. Construct a theme from the following topics: hypocrisy, superficiality, the desire for power, dysfunction, The American Dream vs. The American Reality, and corruption. For example, your words of wisdom might look like this:

*If you are traveling to Gatsby’s world, you need to know something about superficiality. Here are some words of wisdom for you: Humans base their own self-worth off of how other humans perceive them.*   |

On the front cover of your brochure, please include a creative title for your “Survival Guide” as well as a visually appealing image.

***The Great Gatsby* Survival Guide: Brainstorming**

**Characters**

For this portion of the brochure, you need to choose two characters from *Gatsby* and provide travelers with an image or symbol that represents the character, as well as a description of the character. Also include information that goes beyond description and relates what the character is really like. You may choose any characters, but you might want to consider Gatsby, Daisy, Jordan, Nick, Tom, or Myrtle.

Character #1: Character #2:

Image: Image:

Description: Description:

**Symbols/Motifs**

For this portion of the brochure, you need to choose three symbols or motifs from *Gatsby* and include an image that represents a symbol or motif, as well as an explanation of the significance of each literary device. Some possible options for symbols: Valley of Ashes, T.J Eckleberg billboard, the green light, East Egg/West Egg.Some possible options for motifs: Colors (Green, white, gray, and gold), time, carelessness, flowers, money, or alcohol.

Symbol or Motif #1: Symbol or Motif #2: Symbol or Motif #3:

Image: Image: Image:

Description: Description: Description:

**Themes**

For this portion of the brochure, you need to provide a brief description of the lifestyle/habits of those who live in *Gatsby’s* world. Then, provide some words of advice about how to survive in the culture of *Gatsby.*

How would you describe the lifestyle/habits of those who live in *Gatsby’s* world?

What words of advice do you have about how to survive in the culture of *Gatsby*?