

Identify Theme Worksheet

Title of Novel Choice

The Great Gatsby

Theme Statement

The Great Gatsby carries the message of the fact that money can't get you everything. It can get you a lot, but not everything.

Primary Source with 3 Citations

The Great Gatsby

1. A green light is visible from the East Egg dock and West Egg lawn, which represents the hopes and dreams of Gatsby's future. *"Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us."*
2. Gatsby fully invests all his life to get rich, just to impress Daisy. However at the end of the story, Daisy and Tom decide to stay together, instead of Daisy being with Gatsby. *"Daisy and Tom were sitting opposite each other at the kitchen table....They weren't happy...yet they weren't unhappy either. There was an unmistakable air of natural intimacy about the picture, and anybody would have said that they were conspiring together."*
3. In Chapter 2, Tom says *"Here's your money. Go and buy ten more dogs with it" after Myrtle gets a puppy.* This represents the excess spending that occurred, with people borrowing more to replace what they just spent.

Secondary Source with 3 Citations

The Roaring 20s

1. The statement *"As moral suppression and greed declared war"* has a big role in the Great Gatsby. During the 1920s, people did not do what was morally correct. People were having affairs left and right. In the novel, Daisy begins an affair with Gatsby when they reunite.
2. *"Then Wall Street collapses and drowns out the roar"* represents Gatsby at the end of the story. Just like in 1929 when Wall Street suddenly collapsed after having all time highs, Gatsby suddenly is killed by George Wilson.
3. The statement *"While crime was ignored by the money it spends"* really serves as the motto of the 20s. People did all sorts of crazy things, committed crimes, and had affairs left and right. But yet those higher on the social ladder never got into any trouble. Why? Because they had money. Money got them out of trouble.

Title and Author of Literary Work for Comparison/ Contrast

I will be comparing *The Great Gatsby* to "[The Roaring 20s](#)" by Kenn Allan.

If you are reading online, be sure to include a link to the online source.