

# The Great Gatsby – Teaching Pack

## Overview

This resource pack has been specifically developed for **AQA English Literature (Specification B): Unit 1 - Aspects of Narrative**. However, it can be used and adapted across all of the awarding bodies for which the text is on the syllabus. It is designed to give teachers and students both an overview of the novel, its characters and themes, as well as more focused analysis of key passages. Furthermore, it should support students in approaching exam style questions with specific reference to the Assessment Objectives.

## Advice for individual teachers / centres following other specifications

Individual teachers / centres should confirm the relevance of content, activities, topics and worksheets, etc., by referring to the relevant awarding body specification. In particular, it is likely that you will need to adapt / introduce:

- the relevant module for which the novel is being studied on your specification;
- the AOs relevant and specific to your board and specification;
- the requirements and rules for students in terms of how they will be assessed / examined on the text.

# Contents

## **F. Scott Fitzgerald:**

- His life, work & place in American literature.

## **Context:**

- Post-war America in the 1920s.
- The Jazz Age & its impact on high society.

## **Narrative:**

- Chapter summaries & brief analysis

## **Character:**

- Analysis of the key characters (Nick Carraway, Jay Gatsby, Daisy Buchanan, Tom Buchanan)
- Characters linked to ideas & themes (wealth, opulence, decadence, hope)

## **Themes:**

- The American Dream: it's hope and failure
- Ambition & aspiration
- Decadence and materialism
- Perception & artifice
- Self-perception & ego

## **Language:**

- First person & issues of narration / narrative voice in the text
- Influence of the Jazz Age on the language & structure of the novel

## **Exam Preparation:**

- AOs revisited
- Sample questions & explanation
- Deconstructing questions (linked to AOs)
- Planning an examination response
- Model paragraph

- Final practice questions