

# Themes – Ambition & Aspiration

Use this sheet to collect quotations about the theme explored in the central box.



<p><b>Destructive Ambitions and Aspirations – Key Quotations</b></p>	<p><b>Ambition and Aspiration</b></p> <p>The characters in <i>The Great Gatsby</i> are linked by their respective ambitions and aspirations. In different ways each of the characters are reflections of a time that promised much in terms of personal and material fulfilment.</p> <p>The novel's central tension – Gatsby's longing for Daisy – crystallises the fundamental sense in which the characters in the novel are driven by what they want, and are destroyed by what they cannot have / achieve.</p>	<p><b>Failed Ambitions and Aspirations – Key Quotations</b></p>
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# Themes

Listed below are a number of aspects of the narrative that explore the idea of Ambition and Aspiration. Complete a chart for each one.

- Gatsby's relationship with Daisy
- Tom and Daisy Buchanan's relationship
- The tension between the old and new aristocracy
- Social mobility

GASTBY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH DAISY & THE THEME OF AMBITION AND ASPIRATION		
QUOTATION	CHAPTER / PAGE NUMBER	HOW DOES THIS SHOW THE THEME OF THE AMBITION AND ASPIRATION?

# Themes

(Enlarge to A3)

TOM AND DAISY BUCHANAN'S RELATIONSHIP & THE THEME OF AMBITION AND ASPIRATION		
QUOTATION	CHAPTER / PAGE NUMBER	HOW DOES THIS SHOW THE THEME OF THE AMBITION AND ASPIRATION?

# Themes

(Enlarge to A3)

THE TENSION BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW ARISTOCRACY & THE THEME OF AMBITION AND ASPIRATION		
QUOTATION	CHAPTER / PAGE NUMBER	HOW DOES THIS SHOW THE THEME OF THE AMBITION AND ASPIRATION?

# Themes

(Enlarge to A3)

SOCIAL MOBILITY & THE THEME OF AMBITION AND ASPIRATION		
QUOTATION	CHAPTER / PAGE NUMBER	HOW DOES THIS SHOW THE THEME OF THE AMBITION AND ASPIRATION?

# Themes and character

(Enlarge to A3)

Each of the characters in *The Great Gatsby* aspire to be, or have, something. Complete a table like the one below to show the ambitions and aspirations of each of the characters.

CHARACTERS & AMBITION AND ASPIRATION		
CHARACTER	WHAT IS THEIR AMBITION & ASPIRATION?	QUOTATION

➔ **Practice Exam Response Question**

‘If the characters of the novel have a collective flaw, it is that they are possessed by an innate need for their ambitions to be realised, and an irrational hatred of the world when they are not.’

**With close reference to the text, discuss the validity of this statement.**