

UNIT 5 Progress & Conflict
Early Twentieth Century 1910–1929

A STEIN WARD
FROEBEL
BILINGUAL SCHOOL
Home of the Space Generation



THE GREAT GATSBY

WITH
JIM SOTO

SPEAK YOUR MIND

Masks. They're not only for Halloween or mask parties. Everybody wears them every day.

Including you.

Do the people around you have an easy or a difficult time knowing you well? Why do they or do they not?

Take a minute to consider and answer the question.

A SNAPSHOT OF THE JAZZ AGE

When *The Great Gatsby* was published in 1925, author F. Scott Fitzgerald worried that the book wouldn't be successful. In fact, it was not a popular success in its day or for the remainder of Fitzgerald's life, selling fewer than 25,000 copies over the next fifteen years. However, and is today considered one of the greatest American novels of all time.





The story is set in the Jazz Age, a phrase that captures the excitement and glamour of the time. Corruption and greed also marked the era, due largely to the illegal sale of liquor during Prohibition. Jay Gatsby, the novel's protagonist, seems to embody the American dream of the self-made man, but there are questions about his past. In this excerpt, the novel's narrator, Gatsby's neighbor, describes attending one of Gatsby's lavish parties to meet him.

Think of a time you have gone to a party or other event where you didn't know the host or many of the guests. What was it like? Would you do it again? Why or why not?



IMPORTANT THEME IN THE GREAT GATSBY

In *The Great Gatsby*, Fitzgerald offers up commentary on a variety of themes – justice, power, greed, betrayal, the American dream, and so on. Of all the themes, perhaps none is more well developed than that of social stratification. West Egg represents the nouveau riche while East Egg represents the Old Money, and this separation of Long Island shows America's struggle to shed their Old World values and adopt social equality. America's development is mirrored through Gatsby's journey from poverty into a nouveau riche.



LITERARY ELEMENTS



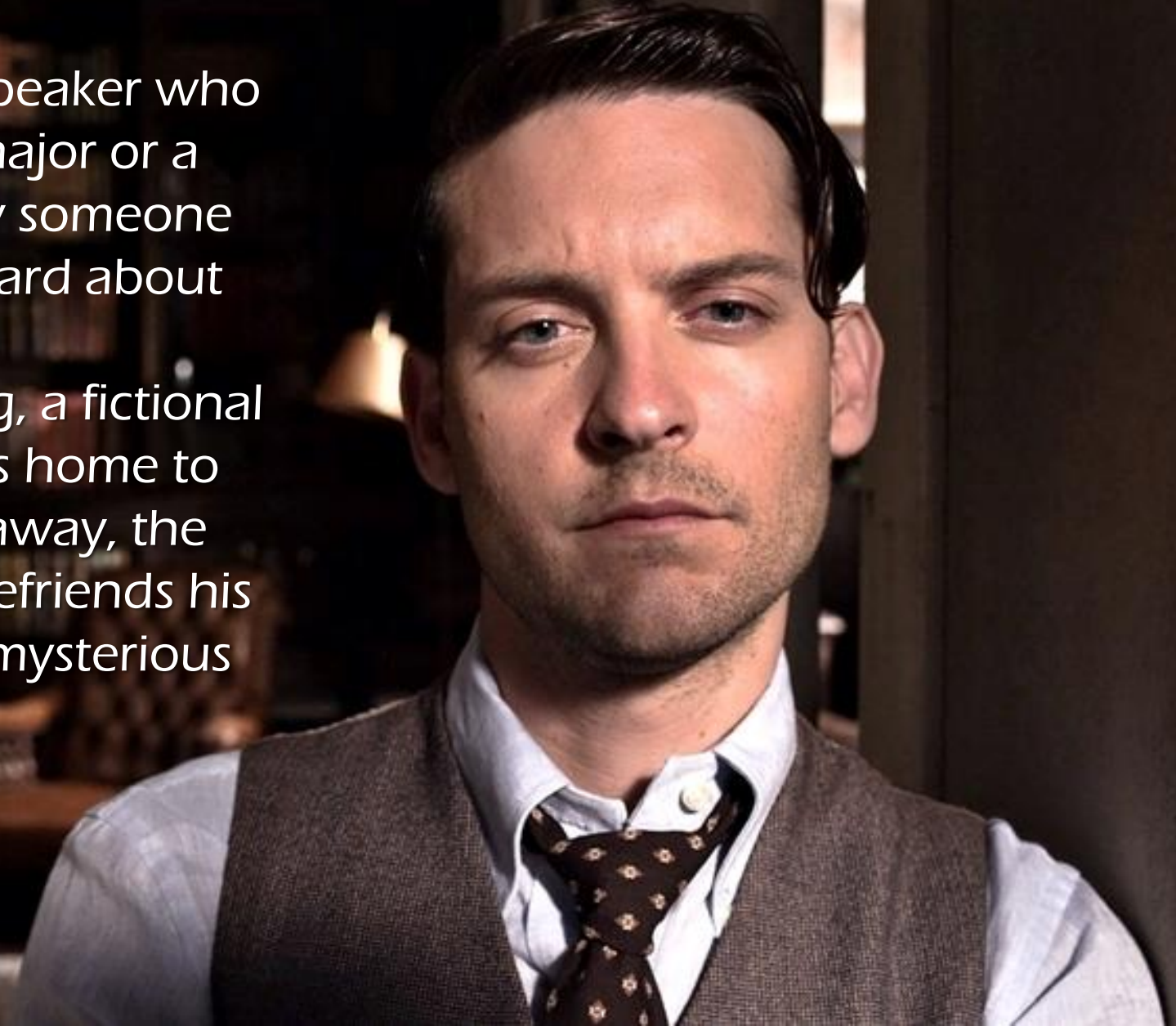
Setting

It includes the historical moment in time and geographic location in which a story takes place. There are four major settings in the book such as the East Egg, West Egg, the valley of ashes and New York City. Nick and Gatsby live in the West Egg which is the place of the newly rich people and is also considered to be the fashionable side of the egg.

Narrator

Refers to a character or speaker who tells a story. It may be a major or a minor character or simply someone who has witnessed or heard about the events being related.

After moving to West Egg, a fictional area of Long Island that is home to the newly rich, Nick Carraway, the story's narrator, quickly befriends his next-door neighbor, the mysterious Jay Gatsby.



ASSESSMENT

After reading pages 341-349 in your book, complete the activities:

1. REFER TO TEXT &
2. REASON WITH TEXT
3. & ANALYZE LITERATURE
 - **Setting and Narrator** - Identify the time and place in which the novel is set. What details convey the setting? Why is the setting important to the story?

Who is the narrator? What is his relationship to Gatsby? Why did Fitzgerald choose this person to narrate the story? Would Gatsby or another character have been a more effective narrator? Explain.



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