

AP English Language and Composition  
*The Great Gatsby*, Chapter 1

1. Discuss the narrator's **tone** as the book opens.
2. Explain the following passage: "Conduct may be founded on the hard rock or the wet marshes, but after a certain point I don't care what it's founded on" (2). What does this passage's presence in Chapter 1 **foreshadow**?
3. How does the **theme** of hope emerge and develop over the course of Chapter 1? What ideas and images are associated with hope?
4. What sort of family does Nick come from? How do you know?
5. Nick asserts: "He found the house, a weather-beaten cardboard bungalow at eighty a month" (3). Is the bungalow really cardboard? What literary device is at work here? What does it tell us about Nick as narrator? How do you think he will tell the story?
6. Read the description of Tom and Daisy's house on the bottom of p. 6. What image patterns are prominent in the description? What colors are associated with their house?
7. Describe in your own words the room in which Daisy and Jordan sit when Nick enters.
8. What is the role of restlessness and motion in the chapter? Which characters are restless? Where does this restlessness come from? What does it mean?
9. Nick introduces Daisy's voice (9). How does he describe it? Throughout the chapter, how would you describe not only Daisy's voice but also the kinds of statements she makes. What is Daisy like?
10. What do we learn in this chapter about the character of Tom Buchanan? About his personality, his psychology, his politics?
11. Nick introduces Gatsby early in the chapter, mentions him in conjunction with his house, says his name to Daisy, and then sees him in the chapter's final scene. What predictions do you have for this character?
12. In this chapter, certain color symbolism emerges. Choose a color you see as prominent. Look up the traditional symbolism for the color (citing your reputable sources). How do the colors seem to be used in the text?

literary terms on the back—>

literary terms

tone

foreshadowing

theme

hyperbole

unreliable narrator

color symbolism

setting

character