

Chapter I

VOCABULARY

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| 1. ecstatic | 6. incredulously | 11. supercilious |
| 2. effeminate | 7. levity | 12. unsought |
| 3. excursion | 8. peremptory | 13. wan |
| 4. feign | 9. pungent | |
| 5. fractiousness | 10. sedative | |

QUESTIONS

14. Notice how many times Fitzgerald uses the words hope, or dream. Why does he do this?
15. Nick starts the novel by relaying his father's advice "Whenever you feel like criticizing anyone, just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had." List Nick's advantages. Does he reserve judgment in the novel?
16. Pay attention to time. What is the day and year during the first scene at Daisy's house?
17. Describe Nick. What facts do you know about him, and what do you infer about him? What kind of a narrator do you think he will be?
18. Look at the language Nick uses to introduce his first impression of Daisy and Jordan and the sitting room. How might you characterize it? What might this selection of words be describing about Nick?
19. What image does the author use to describe Jordan Baker? What might it mean?
20. How does Nick react to Jordan?
21. What does Tom's behavior reveal about his character?
22. How does Daisy's attitude and behavior reveal her character?
23. Where does all the alcohol come from?

NOTES

"Midas and Morgan and Mæcenus"

Midas, mythical King Midas of Crete who was blessed (cursed?) with the "Golden touch;" whatever he touched turned to gold. *Morgan*, John Pierpont Morgan, richest man in America, banking and railroad tycoon. *Mæcenus*, Gaius Mæcenus, advisor to Octavian, later Emperor Augustus; Mæcenus was known as the patron of the arts and supported numerous poets through gifts including entire villas and salaries enabling poets (such as Virgil and Horace) to devote all their efforts to writing; his name has become a byword for a "wealthy and connected patron" (Wikipedia).

"Jordan Baker"

Her name brings together two cars, the sporty Jordan & the conservative Baker electric.



Jordan Playboy Roadster (1920)



Baker electric (1916)