The Great Gatsby Unit Exam
English 11, Spring 2013

Section I. True or False: write the correct letter next to each item: A = true, B = false
a. Daisy hopes her daughter will be smarter than she was. B (false)
b. East Egg represents “old money” in the novel. (A true)
c. George Wilson owns an auto repair shop. (A true)
d. Nick sells expensive automobiles. (B false)
e. Jordan has been known to move her golf ball in tournaments. (A true)
f. It is Nick who reunites Daisy and Gatsby. (A true)
g. Daisy never reveals her part in Myrtle’s death. (A true)
h. The billboard with the Eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleberg is in East Egg. (B false)
i. Gatsby is murdered in his own swimming pool. (A true)
j. Tom’s affair with Myrtle is the first time he has been unfaithful to Daisy. (B false)

Section II. Multiple Choice: circle the BEST answer. The question itself is bolded, while any quotations are unbolded.

1. The narrator of the novel is...
   A. Gatsby
   B. Nick
   C. Daisy
   D. Fitzgerald

2. At the beginning of the novel, Nick recounts a conversation where his father tells him to remember that “all of the people in this world haven’t had the _________ you’ve had…”
   A. advantages
   B. disadvantages
   C. friends
   D. luck

3. What does the following metaphor about the moths suggest about the people who attend Gatsby’s parties? : “In his blue gardens men and girls came and went like moths among the whisperings and the champagne and the stars.”
   A. The partygoers are attracted to blue gardens.
   B. The partygoers can fly like moths.
   C. The partygoers are attracted to lights.
   D. The partygoers are attracted to something potentially destructive.
4. What is the main reason Owl Eyed Man says the following about the books in Gatsby’s library?: “Absolutely real- have pages and everything. I thought they’d be a nice durable cardboard. Matter of fact, they’re absolutely real.”
   A. He is crazy.
   B. He heard a rumor that Gatsby’s books were fake.
   C. He is suspicious of Gatsby and questions the actuality of his wealth.
   D. He hates flimsy books.

5. The green light symbolizes:
   A. Gatsby’s dreams of success and love
   B. Daisy’s faithfulness to Tom.
   C. Nick’s dream of moving to East Egg.
   D. Tom’s jealousy toward Gatsby.

6. By the end of the novel, we know that Gatsby has made his money as a bootlegger during Prohibition. What does this tell us about his pursuit of the American Dream?
   A. Gatsby believes hard work and patience will help him win Daisy back.
   B. Gatsby is a strict follower of societal rules and laws.
   C. Gatsby believes money is an unimportant part of his dream to win Daisy back.
   D. Gatsby is willing to break the law to make enough money to try and win Daisy back.

7. What does the following sentence tell us about Gatsby and West Egg culture?: “Every Friday five crates of oranges and lemons arrived from a fruiterer in New York- every Monday these same oranges and lemons left his back door in a pyramid of pulpless halves.”
   A. It is a culture in which people value appearance above all else.
   B. It is a culture based on strict schedules.
   C. It is a culture of consumption.
   D. It is a culture in which being a fruiterer is a highly valued profession.

8. What event causes Myrtle to realize that George is not a “gentleman” as she believed before they were married?
   A. George purposefully allows her dog to run away.
   B. She discovers the coat he wore to their wedding was borrowed.
   C. She discovers that his parents financed their wedding.
   D. George punches Tom in the face.

9. At the time of his death, George thinks Myrtle is having an affair with...
   A. Tom
   B. Nick
   C. Gatsby
   D. Wolfsheim
10. Who influences Gatsby’s decision not to drink alcohol?
   A. Henry Gatz
   B. Dan Cody
   C. Tom Buchanan
   D. Wolfsheim

11. Gatsby’s father shows Nick a list of “General Resolves” that Gatsby wrote as a teenager.
    All of the following are on this list EXCEPT:
    A. Read one improving book or magazine per week.
    B. No smoking or chewing.
    C. Be better to parents.
    D. Join the army.

12. What does Nick’s obsession with “getting somebody” for Gatsby after he is already dead say about Gatsby’s relationships with the other characters and people who attended his parties?
    A. All of his relationships were meaningful and Nick wants Gatsby surrounded by true friends.
    B. All of his relationships were empty and meaningless.
    C. They are afraid of Wolfsheim.
    D. Nick wants to move west before Gatsby’s funeral, so he doesn’t have to deal with it.

13. To what type of woman does this quote refer? : “Already there are wanderers, confident girls who weave here and there among the stouter and more stable, become for a sharp, joyous moment the center of a group, and then, excited with triumph, glide on through the sea-change of faces and voices.”
    A. flamingoes
    B. fliers
    C. flappers
    D. fashionistas

14. All of the following are rumors told about Gatsby EXCEPT:
    A. Gatsby killed a man.
    B. Gatsby is running for mayor of New York City.
    C. Gatsby is a nephew of Kaiser Wilhelm.
    D. Gatsby actually lives in a houseboat.
15. What event does the following quote precede? “She groped around in a waste-basket she had with her on the bed and pulled out the string of pearls. ‘Take ‘em downstairs and give ‘em back to whoever they belong to. Tell ‘em all Daisy’s change’ her mine. Say: Daisy’s change’ her mine!”
   A. The night at the Plaza Hotel.
   B. The night Myrtle is killed.
   C. The night her daughter is born.
   D. The day of her wedding.

16. Gatsby first introduces Nick to Wolfsheim at...
   A. The Plaza Hotel.
   B. One of Gatsby’s parties.
   C. A speakeasy.
   D. The Buchanans’ house.

17. Myrtle tries to flag down the car, because...
   A. She saw Tom driving it earlier in the day.
   B. She wants the car to hit her.
   C. She is trying to run away from George.
   D. She sees Daisy at the wheel.

18. Why is Gatsby’s love for Daisy doomed to fail?
   A. She is “old money.”
   B. She can never live up to the idea of who Gatsby imagines she is.
   C. She cannot trust Gatsby to be faithful to her.
   D. She is a dedicated, doting mother.

19. Who tells Nick that they don’t need to be careful while driving, because “it takes two to make an accident”?
   A. Tom
   B. Gatsby
   C. Daisy
   D. Jordan

20. At the first dinner party at the Buchanans’ house, Nick observes, “The only completely stationary object in the room was an enormous couch on which two young women were buoyed up as though upon an anchored balloon.” Which response represents a possible close reading of this quotation?
   A. The women have dreams but society keeps them tethered and unable to drift away.
   B. Upward class mobility is in their futures.
   C. The women are not very intelligent.
   D. Their dresses make the women look like marshmallows.
Section III. Quotation Identification: Identify the character who says the quotation.
*** Some characters will be repeated, but ALL WILL BE USED AT LEAST ONCE.

Daisy       Gatsby      Nick      Jordan      Tom      Myrtle      Wolfsheim

Identify the character who says the quotation.

1. “Can’t repeat the past?... Why of course you can!”

2. “Daisy! Daisy! Daisy! I’ll say it whenever I want to! Daisy! Dai--”

3. “It makes me sad because I’ve never seen such- such beautiful shirts before.”

4. “Civilization’s going to pieces.”

5. “So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.”

*** Identify the character described in the quotation:

6. “…there was something gorgeous about him, some heightened sensitivity to the promises of life.”

7. “Her voice is full of money.”

8. “I thought you were rather an honest, straightforward person. I thought it was your secret pride”

9. “He’s a gambler... He’s the man who fixed the World’s Series back in 1919.”

10. “There was a jauntiness about her movements as if she had first learned to walk upon golf courses on clean, crisp mornings”
Section IV. Short answers: 10 points

Directions: In 2-3 paragraphs, compose your response using 3-4 textual examples as well as your own opinions and ideas. There are not necessarily right or wrong answers, so long as you support your position with evidence from the novel. You may use the novel to answer this question.

Who or what do you believe is responsible for Gatsby’s death?

BONUS: At Gatsby’s funeral the Owl Eyed Man refers to Gatsby as a “poor son-of-a-bitch.” Do you agree or disagree with this assessment of Gatsby at the end of the novel?

*One FULL paragraph for full credit; 5 points possible.
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4. “Civilization’s going to pieces.” **Tom**
5. “So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.” **Nick**

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8. “I thought you were rather an honest, straightforward person. I thought it was your secret pride” **Nick**
9. “He’s a gambler... He’s the man who fixed the World’s Series back in 1919.” **Wolfsheim**
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Holistic Grading Scale:

Exemplary (9-10 points): The response reflects a clear and comprehensive understanding of the plot events within The Great Gatsby and uses that knowledge to argue an individually-constructed reading of the text. This response meets all requirements: addresses the prompt throughout, contains at least 3-4 examples of textual evidence, and spans at least 2-3 paragraphs.

Proficient (7-8 points): The response reflects a clear understanding of the plot events within The Great Gatsby and uses that knowledge to argue an individually-constructed reading of the text. This response meets or almost meets most requirements: addresses the prompt throughout, contains fewer than 3 examples of textual evidence, and spans at least 2-3 paragraphs.

Developing (5-6 points): The response reflects limited understanding of the plot events within The Great Gatsby, which weakens the student’s ability to argue an individually-constructed reading of the text. Therefore, this response contains almost all summarizing comments about the novel that may only be partially correct. This response almost meets some requirements: mostly addresses the prompt throughout, contains fewer than 2 examples of textual evidence, and spans fewer than one paragraph.

Unsatisfactory (4 points depending on effort displayed by the student): The response reflects a weak or inaccurate understanding of the plot events within The Great Gatsby, which drastically inhibits the student’s ability to argue an individually-constructed reading of the text. Therefore, this response contains only summary, which may or may not be correct. This response meets barely any requirements: does not address the prompt throughout, contains fewer than 2 examples of textual evidence, and spans at fewer than 1 paragraph.