**Chapter Questions**

**Answer the following questions in complete sentences.**

Chapter 1

1. Count how many times Fitzgerald uses the words hope, or dream in this chapter. Why do you think that he repeats these phrases? How does this repetition make the reader think about life?
2. Nick begins 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 the advantages that Nick possesses just by being born who he is. Does he reserve judgment of other characters in the novel?
3. Note the narrator’s comments about time. What is the seaon, day and year during the first chapter (at the dinner at Daisy’s home)? Why might this season be important?
4. What is the difference between East Egg and West Egg? Since Daisy and Tom Buchanan live in the East Egg, what does that suggest about their position in society? How does Gatsby’s house characterize him?
5. How is Jordan Baker characterized? What image do we first see of her? What qualities of character does she reveal later in the chapter?
6. How does Tom’s physical description support his characterization as a racist brute with money?
7. Who is the fifth guest? How does this guest disrupt the pleasantries of the dinner? Why does Daisy pretend that she does not know who it is?
8. What does Daisy say about the birth of her daughter and how does this represent women’s rights in the 1920s?
9. Is Daisy stupid? Why or why not?
10. Nick sees Gatsby at the end of the chapter. How is Gatsby characterized? What is he doing and what does his movement suggest about his character?

Chapter 2

1. Describe the "valley of ashes." What does it look like and what does it represent? Who lives in this valley?
2. Describe the billboard present in the valley. What might it symbolize? Support your answer with textual evidence.
3. How are George and Myrtle Wilson characterized? How does their physical descriptions embody their moral character?
4. What more have you learned about Nick in this chapter? Is he similar or different than the people he spends his time with?
5. What does the dog symbolize for Myrtle? Why does Tome so readily buy it for her?
6. Describe each of the party guests. Who are they and how are they described? Why do they come to the apartment? How does Myrtle’s behavior change once they are present?
7. What are the rumors about Gatsby at the party? Are these believable? Why or why not?
8. What explanation does Catherine give for why Tom and Myrtle cannot marry? What do you believe to be the real reason?
9. Recall the story about how George and Myrtle married. What does this telling say about them as characters?
10. Describe the violent act Tom committed against Myrtle. How does this fit with his characterization?