

## A2 English Literature Summer Task

The first topic you will study will be **The Great Gatsby** by **F. Scott Fitzgerald**. Please complete the following tasks:

- 1) Read the book. It isn't too long, and you can find it here:

<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks02/0200041h.html>

Alternatively, we advise all our A-Level students that buying their own texts is a worthwhile purchase.

There are lots of editions online (some with beautiful covers!). Buying your own means you can highlight and annotate as we go through the text.



- 2) Research the following areas that relate to the social, historical and cultural context of the novel:

- F. Scott Fitzgerald: his life and works
- The Jazz Age
- The Roaring Twenties
- The Prohibition
- Race, gender and class in 1920s America
- New York in the 1920s
- The Wall Street Crash and the Great Depression

Here are a couple of videos to get you started:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1XM30FUke5U>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h20zDSHlqkE>

You can present this information in anyway you wish. It might be a PowerPoint, a poster, or simply a document of information. Avoid copying and pasting. Use your own words so we know that you've fully understood your research.

- 3) You may also wish to watch the film to reinforce your knowledge of the plot (if you enjoyed Leonardo DiCaprio in Romeo and Juliet... you'll enjoy it!)
- 4) Once you've got a firm grasp on the plot and its context, your final task will put your creativity to the test. Using your knowledge of the novel,

create a map of the city setting, and annotate **with quotations** from the novel. There are some ideas below of parts you may wish to include. You can either focus on East and West Egg, or expand your map to include them in relation to Manhattan and New York City.

