

The Great Gatsby Discussion Question Ch. 5

1. "Gatsby, in a white flannel suit, silver shirt, and gold-colored tie, hurried in" (Fitzgerald 65) What is significant about how Gatsby is dressed, especially the colors he has chose?
2. When Nick returns from outside he says that it felt like there was some question lingering in the air between Gatsby and Daisy. What do you think the question is? Do we also know the answer to the question, given Gatsby's change in behavior?
3. "He hadn't once ceased looking at Daisy, and I think he revalued everything in his house according to the measure of response it drew from her well-loved eyes. Sometimes, too, he stared around at his possessions in a dazed way, as though in her actual and astounding presence none of it was any longer real" (Fitzgerald 71). What do you think Fitzgerald meant when he said he "revalued everything in his house according to the measure of response it drew from her" ? How does this passage as a whole provide an insight into Gatsby's motivations for his extravagant lifestyle? Explain.
4. Why do you think Gatsby would pull out all of his clothes from his closet? It seems like an odd thing to show company, so why would he make a point to show them all of his clothes?
5. Why is Daisy crying into the shirts? Is she really upset about the "beautiful shirts" or is there something else? Explain.
6. What is the significance of the light at Daisy's dock? What does it symbolize? What is Gatsby inadvertently telling Daisy by describing how he watches the light? Is it the same thing that he inadvertently tells her when he shows her the newspaper clippings he has collected about her?
7. Now that Gatsby has met Daisy after all of these years, is she everything he expected? Does the real Daisy compare to the idolized Daisy in his mind? Explain.
8. Does anyone in the story truly know Daisy? Explain.