

Humane Letters 9: The American Tradition

April 20-24

Time Allotment: 80 minutes per day

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Packet Overview

| Date | Objective(s) | Page |
|---------------------|---|------|
| Monday, April 20 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the nature of life in the wealthy urban world of 1920s New York. 2. Describe the underlying sorrow that punctuates the flow of narration at key moments of the novel. | 2 |
| Tuesday, April 21 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distinguish the role of the past, both authentic and fabricated, in shaping the present. 2. Determine the reliability of the narrator, Nick Carraway. | 4 |
| Wednesday, April 22 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine why Daisy Fay married Tom Buchannan. 2. Locate Gatsby’s motives for a series of actions stretching from buying his mansion to asking Jordan to explain a secret to Nick over lunch. | 6 |
| Thursday, April 23 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locate two major naval battles of WWII, Battle of Coral Sea and Battle of Midway. 2. Explain the importance of the Battle of the Coral Sea. | 7 |
| Friday, April 24 | R&R | n/a |

Additional Notes: Welcome back, intrepid Humane Letters Scholars! I am so excited to announce that we are beginning optional seminars this week! On Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:00 – 2:30 pm, you have the option of joining my Office Hours on Zoom to enjoy a seminar discussion with your fellow classmates and me. Please join promptly at 1:00 pm to begin the discussion. Make sure to have your annotated book with you so that you can reference the text and ask questions. I hope many of you will join me. I am really interested in your thoughts on the book. These great books deserve to be read and discussed with friends!

If you cannot join the seminar on Zoom, no worries! You can complete the alternative writing assignments for the day in this packet. If you come to the seminar, you do not need to complete the writing assignment. You will be evaluated on your engagement in the seminar.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me. Have a great week!

A few things to remember:

- i. Assignments should be completed preferably in (a) a notebook or loose-leaf paper, but if you do not have access to these, you may type your work.
- ii. Whether you write your assignments or type them, be sure to include the following:
 - a. Place an MLA formatted four-part header at the top of a new assignment page (this is what you have always done for the essay header)
 - b. Start each day’s assignment at the top of a new page
 - c. Designate and title each assignment with a day of the week in all caps, followed by the date (e.g. Tuesday, April 14)
 - d. If typing, use double-spacing, Times New Roman, and 12 pt. Font
- iii. If not in a notebook, keep all your written work in a folder (physical folder if written, digital folder if typed).

Academic Honesty

I certify that I completed this assignment independently in accordance with the GHNO Academy Honor Code.

Student signature:

I certify that my student completed this assignment independently in accordance with the GHNO Academy Honor Code.

Parent signature:

Monday, April 20

William Shakespeare Poem

Today we have a new poem to memorize!

Every day for the remainder of the week spend 5 minutes memorizing the poem below:

William Shakespeare



"When to the Sessions of Sweet Silent Thought"

Sonnet 30

When to the sessions of sweet silent thought
I summon up remembrance of things past,
I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought,
And with old woes new wail my dear times' waste:
Then can I drown an eye, unus'd to flow,
For precious friends hid in death's dateless night.
And weep afresh love's long-since cancell'd woe,
And moan the expense of many a vanish'd sight.
Then can I grieve at grievance foregone,
And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er
The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan,
Which I new pay as if not paid before.
But if the while I think on thee, dear friend,
All losses are restor'd, and sorrows end.

Literature Unit: F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

Lesson 2: Chapter 2

Lesson 2 Socratic Questions: Keep these questions in mind as you study this lesson!

Why does the trip to New York City occur? What do the giant bespectacled eyes of Doctor Eckleburg signify?

Objectives: Be able to do this by the end of this lesson.

1. Identify the nature of life in the wealthy urban world of 1920s New York.
2. Describe the underlying sorrow that punctuates the flow of narration at key moments of the novel.

Introduction to Lesson 2:

Welcome to the second lesson on *The Great Gatsby*! As you continue to read and think about the book, keep in mind the comment Zelda Fitzgerald made about her own generation:

"We grew up founding our dreams on the infinite promise of American advertising. I still believe that one can learn to play the piano by mail and that mud will give you a perfect complexion."

Read and Annotate

Read and annotate chapter 2 of *The Great Gatsby*. Answer the grammar questions below **WHILE** you read. Answer the logic and rhetoric questions **AFTER** you finish reading.

Grammar questions

These questions are **optional**- let them guide your inquiry but don't feel constrained by the need to answer them.

1. What do Tom and Nick see by the side of the road while waiting for the drawbridge? Describe the landscape and note the most startling detail in it.
2. What is Mr. Wilson's job? Does Tom think highly of him?
3. What does Myrtle Wilson buy while in New York City?
4. Where does Catherine think Gatsby's wealth comes from?

Logic Questions

The questions in this section are **optional**, but they will help you understand the book more deeply if you choose to answer them. Answer in complete sentences.

5. What does the valley of ashes potentially symbolize?
6. What happens to Myrtle's nose? Why?

Option 1: Seminar on Zoom

Your first option for today's assignment is to participate in a seminar on Zoom over Chapter 1 of *The Great Gatsby*. Simply join my Office Hours using the link posted on Google Classroom or on the Remote Learning page of the school's website.

Please join promptly at 1:00 pm. Have your annotated book with you so you can reference it. Feel free to write down any questions you want to discuss.

Since this is our first time doing a seminar on Zoom, I will give us a few minutes at the beginning to get settled. If you are having trouble getting on Zoom, don't worry! Just shoot me an email and I will do what I can to help.

Option 2: Rhetoric Question

If you are unable to join our Zoom seminar, you must complete the following writing assignment. If you participate in the Zoom seminar you do not need to complete this writing assignment.

Read the following excerpt from page 35. The narrator, Nick Carraway, is speaking.

I wanted to get out and walk eastward toward the Park through the soft twilight, but each time I tried to go I became entangled in some wild, strident argument which pulled me back, as if with ropes, into my chair. Yet high over the city our line of yellow windows must have contributed their share of human secrecy to the casual watcher in the darkening streets, and I was him too, looking up and wondering. I was within and without, simultaneously enchanted and repelled by the inexhaustible variety of life.

Please write one paragraph (a minimum of 5 sentences) on ONE of the questions below.

7. What "wild, strident argument" keeps Nick from leaving?
8. Why is Nick "Simultaneously enchanted and repelled by the inexhaustible variety of life"?

Tuesday, April 21

Literature Unit: F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

Lesson 3: Chapter 3

Lesson 3 Socratic Questions: Keep these questions in mind as you study this lesson!

Why does Jay Gatsby throw such lavish parties? Are the people who attend them happy while they are there? Can we trust Nick Carraway's narration?

Objectives: Be able to do this by the end of this lesson.

1. Distinguish the role of the past, both authentic and fabricated, in shaping the present.
2. Determine the reliability of the narrator, Nick Carraway.

Memorize

Take five minutes to memorize the new poem on page two.

Read and Annotate

Read and annotate chapter 3 of *The Great Gatsby*. The grammar and logic questions are both **optional** and do not have to be responded to, but you should refer to them to guide and deepen your reading. Answer the rhetoric question AFTER you finish reading.

Grammar Questions

These questions are **optional**- let them guide your inquiry but don't feel constrained by the need to answer them.

1. Are the books in the library real?
2. Describe Mr. Gatsby in 2-3 sentences.
3. What does Gatsby invite Nick to do with him the following day?
4. Does Gatsby dance with anyone at the party?

Logic Questions

The questions in this section are **optional**, but they will help you understand the book more deeply if you choose to answer them.

5. What is the dynamic between the women and men at the party? Are they approximately the same age? Describe a typical female guest at the party.
6. Why does the party descend into tears and discord?

Rhetoric Question/ Minor Assessment

After you finish reading the chapter choose ONE question from below and answer in two paragraphs with a minimum of 4 sentences each. Reference the text as you build your argument and make sure to include at least one direct quotation. Good luck!

7. Nick Carraway *claims* that "he is one of the most honest men [he] has ever known."

(page 59) On the other hand, he appears to be falling in love with a girl who is a liar, and that seems to be part of her charm for Nick. Can we trust him and his narration of the story?

8. What speculations are made by guests about Gatsby's past? Which ones seem most plausible? Why?

Wednesday, April 22

Literature Unit: F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

Lesson 4: Chapter 4

Lesson 4 Socratic Guiding Questions: Keep these questions in mind as you study this lesson! What is the truth about Gatsby's past? Where did his fortune come from? Whose narrative can we trust?

Objectives:

3. Determine why Daisy Fay married Tom Buchanan.
4. Locate Gatsby's motives for a series of actions stretching from buying his mansion to asking Jordan to explain a secret to Nick over lunch.

Memorize

Take five minutes to memorize the poem on page two.

Read and Annotate

Read and annotate chapter 4 of *The Great Gatsby*. The grammar and logic questions below are both optional and do not have to be responded to, but you should refer to them to guide and deepen your reading. Answer the rhetoric question/**minor assessment** AFTER you finish reading.

Grammar Questions

These questions are optional- let them guide your inquiry but don't feel constrained by the need to answer them.

1. Where, specifically, does Gatsby say he is from?
2. What are Wolfshiem's cuff buttons made from?
3. Why, according to Jordan, did Gatsby buy his mansion?

Logic Questions

The questions in this section are **optional**, but they will help you understand the book more deeply if you choose to answer them.

1. Are there any patterns or commonalities in the list of names of Gatsby's guests? If so, what significance might they have?
2. Why does Gatsby take Nick with him to have lunch with Wolfsheimer?

Option 1: Seminar on Zoom

Your first option for today's assignment is to participate in a seminar on Zoom over Chapters 2 and 3 of *The Great Gatsby*. Simply join my Office Hours using the link posted on Google Classroom or on the Remote Learning page of the school's website.

Please join promptly at 1:00 pm. Have your annotated book with you so you can reference the book. Feel free to write down any questions you want to discuss.

Since this is our first time doing a seminar on Zoom, I will give us a few minutes at the beginning to get settled. If you are having trouble getting on Zoom, don't worry! Just shoot me an email and I will do what I can to help.

Option 2: Rhetoric Question

If you are unable to join our Zoom seminar, you must complete the following writing assignment. If you participate in the Zoom seminar you do not need to complete this writing assignment.

Only one more *Great Gatsby* challenge this week! Choose ONE question from below and answer in one paragraph with a minimum of 5 sentences.

3. What does Nick mean when he thinks "There are only the pursued, the pursuing, the busy, and the tired"? (page 79). Choose two characters and describe how they do or do not fall into these categories.
4. Why does Daisy marry Tom Buchanan?

Thursday, April 23

History Unit: America in World War II

Lesson 5: The Pacific Theater

Lesson 5 Socratic Guiding Questions:

Why would a country prefer conquest to consolidation? Is there something easier, for lack of a better word, about fighting a defensive, rather than offensive war?

Objective: Be able to do this by the end of this lesson.

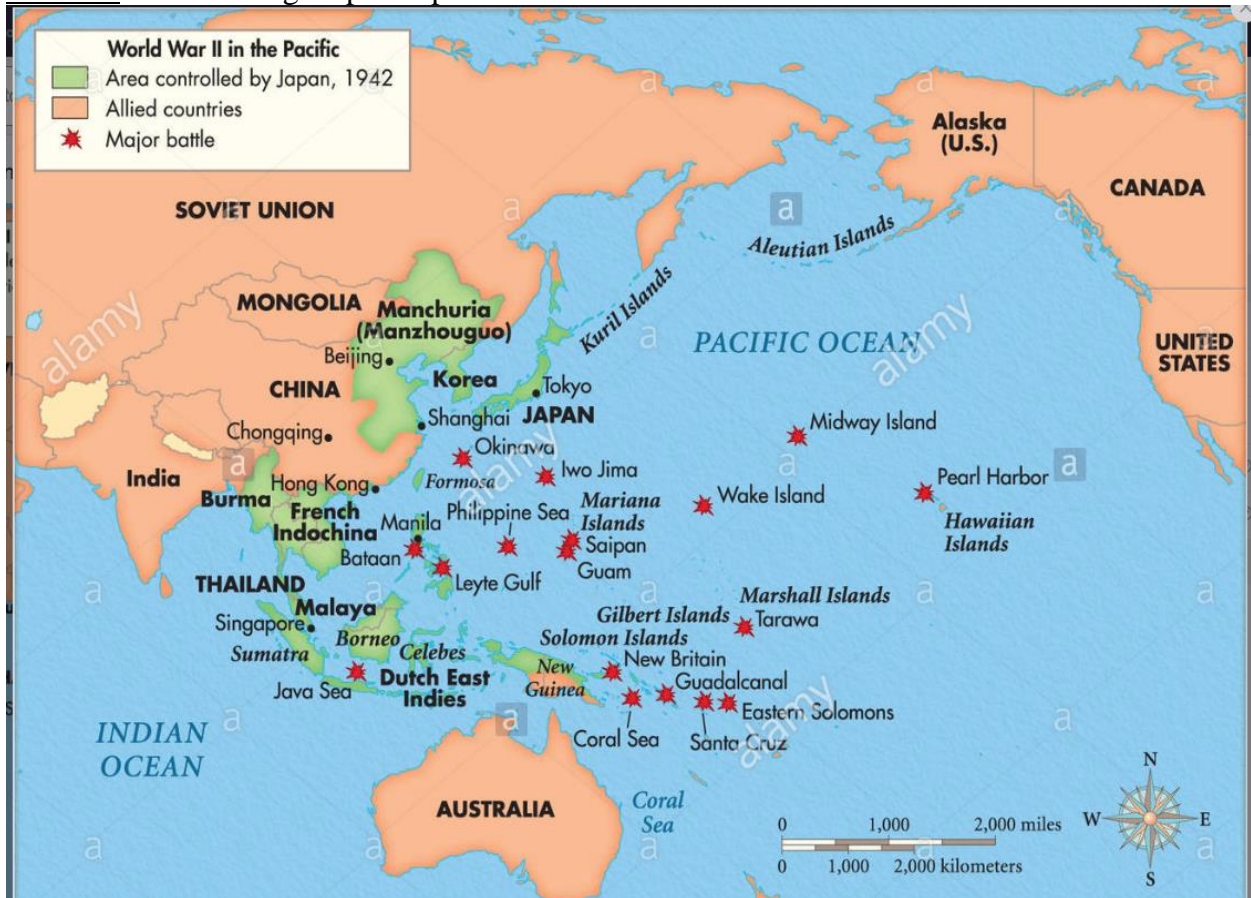
3. Locate two major naval battles of WWII, Battle of Coral Sea and Battle of Midway.
4. Explain the importance of the Battle of the Coral Sea.

Introduction to Lesson 5

Remember, World War II was a two-front war for the United States; the US faced enemies to the European Theater and the Pacific Theater. When the United States entered the war in December 1941, Japan was moving with breath-taking speed to conquer and control key points in the Pacific. By May 1942, Japan controlled Guam, Wake Island, the Gilbert Islands, Hong Kong, the Burma Road, Manila, the Bataan Peninsula, Corregidor, and the Dutch East Indies. America stumbled to defensively catch up to the well-prepared, strategic Empire of Japan. Britain’s Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, called the Allied position in the Pacific “weak and naked.” Roosevelt referred to news of the Pacific as “all bad.” In short, the US was losing to the Empire of Japan. Japan’s strategy was to isolate Australia and capture Hawaii. Japan wanted to control the entry points to the West, specifically the trade and war production that funneled through Australia and Hawaii. Japan had crippled a good bit of the American naval fleet with the Attack on Pearl Harbor – in short, Japan bought itself time. Now, if Japan could only prevent America from rebuilding, Japan could win the war. Something about the American approach in the Pacific Theater had to change and fast. How would America stop Japan’s march to Australia? How would America protect Hawaii and its continental West Coast?

Examine the Map

Examine the following map of Japanese and Allied territories in 1942.



1. Circle Midway Island and Wake Island. Why (geographically) would Japan want to control those locations?

2. Circle the Dutch East Indies. Why (geographically) would Japan want to control that location?

3. Circle Burma and Hong Kong. Why (geographically) would Japan want to control those locations?

4. Circle the Coral Sea battle site and New Guinea. Why (geographically) would Japan want to capture New Guinea?

5. Circle the island of Japan (just the island, not its outlying territories). Notice the size of the island compared to its Empire. What European *island* held similar control of the West? _____

6. Note the distance from the island of Japan to Hawaii. Using the key/legend at the bottom of the map, approximately how many miles is Pearl Harbor from Japan?

Read and Annotate

Read and annotate the following excerpt from *America: A Narrative History*. The war in the Pacific Theater took a turn for the positive with the Battle of the Coral Sea (May 1942) and the Battle of Midway. The Battle of Midway marked the turning point for eventual Allied victory in the Pacific Theater.

Battle of the Coral Sea (May 7–8, 1942) stopped a fleet convoying Japanese troop transports toward New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. If the Japanese succeeded in capturing New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, the last Allied naval base protecting Australia, Port Moresby, would fall. If the Allies lost Port Moresby, they would effectively be losing Australia. Naval radio intercepts alerted the US forces to Japan's movement. Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet and a

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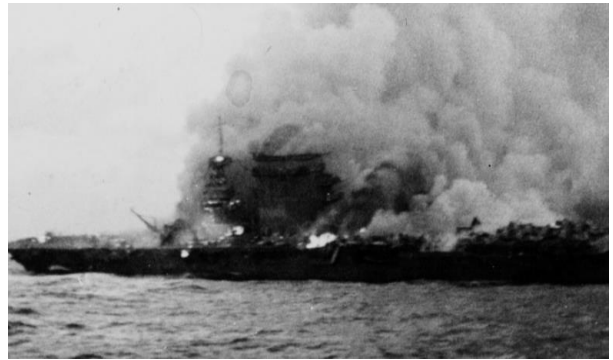
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*native of Fredericksburg, Texas, sent the USS Yorktown and the USS Lexington to protect Port Moresby. America's victory in Battle of the Coral Sea marked the **first** US Navy victory against the Imperial Japanese Navy. In addition, the Battle featured two naval fleets, neither able to see the other due to bad weather and both fighting by carrier plane, making the Battle of the Coral Sea the first air-sea battle in history. American losses were greater, specifically the sinking of the USS Lexington, but the Japanese threat against Australia was repelled. From the Coral Sea, Japan and the US turned their attention to Midway.*



In the far left photo (seated), Admiral Chester Nimitz strategizes US Naval actions in 1942. As the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet, Nimitz commanded Fletcher (see next photo) and others (among them General Douglas MacArthur) to victory in the Battle of the Coral Sea.

On the left-side, Vice Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher. Fletcher was second in command (serving directly under Admiral Nimitz) during the Battle of the Coral Sea.



Less than a month after the Coral Sea engagement, Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, the Japanese naval commander, steered his fleet for Midway Island, from which he hoped to render Pearl Harbor helpless. This time it was the Japanese who were the victims of surprise. American cryptanalysts (i.e., code breakers) had by then broken the Japanese naval code, and Admiral Chester Nimitz knew their plan. He reinforced Midway with planes and carriers.

The first Japanese foray against Midway, on June 4, 1942, severely damaged the island's defenses, but at the cost of about one third of the Japanese planes. American torpedo planes and dive bombers struck back before another Japanese attack could be mounted. The Japanese lost their four best aircraft carriers; the Americans, a carrier and a destroyer. The Japanese navy was forced into retreat less than six months after the attack on Hawaii. The Battle of Midway was the turning point of the Pacific war. It demonstrated that aircraft carriers, not battleships, were the decisive elements of modern naval warfare, and it bought time for the United States to mobilize for war.

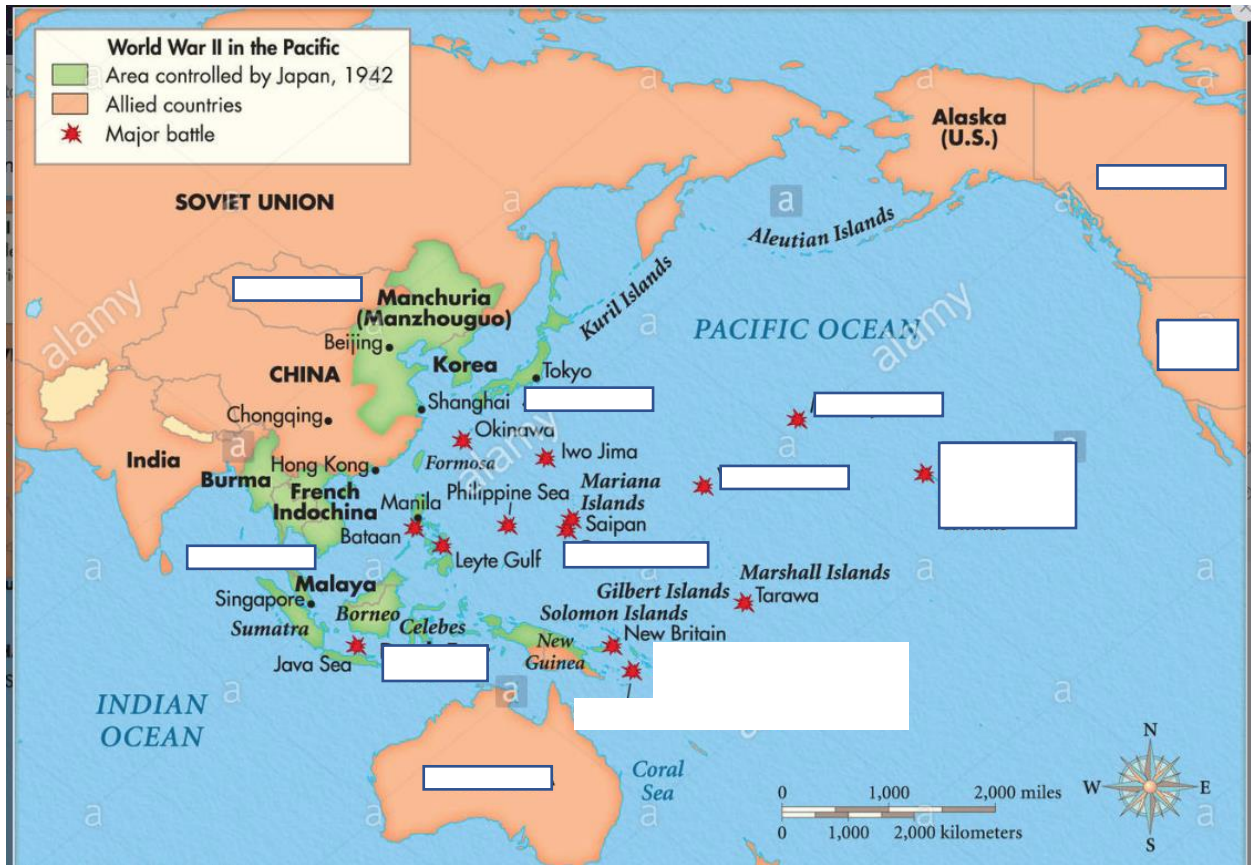
We'll spend more time on the Battle of Midway next week. For now, you should know that the Battle of Midway turned the tide for American victory in the Pacific Theater.

Before completing the minor assessment activity, reread this lesson.

History: Minor Assessment

The names of several locations have been obscured on the following map. Using the numbers, locate and label numbers 1 through 6 on the map below.

- 1. The Hawaiian Islands (Pearl Harbor)
- 2. Battle of the Coral Sea
- 3. Australia
- 7. Midway Island
- 5. The island of Japan
- 6. USA



- 8. Name the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet in 1942: Admiral _____.
- 9. Explain the importance of the Battle of the Coral Sea.
