

Worksheet: The Great Gatsby – Party Planning Webquest

Introduction:



You've just been hired as the party planner for a mysterious millionaire looking to create a party to impress.

The catch?

The party takes place in the summer of 1922, and you'll need to do some research to find out what's popular so everyone has a roaring good time.

Task:

Answer the following questions by using the web resources provided to research who will be attending the party and what they might enjoy. Then, based on that information, write a short description of your party plan.

Process & Resources:

You'll be researching a few key background elements from *The Great Gatsby* in this project including guests, music, food and beverage, and key locations.



Cultural Backdrop:

What was going on in society during the early 1920s?

https://www.ducksters.com/history/us_1900s/roaring_twenties.php

What is the 19th Amendment?

<https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/amendment-19>

What is a flapper?

<https://www.history.com/topics/roaring-twenties/flappers>

What were the fashion trends of the 1920s?

<http://prohibition.themobmuseum.org/the-history/how-prohibition-changed-american-culture/prohibition-fashion/>



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Music: The Jazz Age

Why are the 1920s called “The Jazz Age”?

<http://prohibition.themobmuseum.org/the-history/how-prohibition-changed-american-culture/jazz-and-jukeboxes/>

What music was popular? <http://www.1920-30.com/music/>

The Guest List: The New-Money and Old-Money Millionaires

<https://www.therichest.com/lifestyle/10-differences-between-old-money-vs-new-money/>

Who are the New Money? https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nouveau_riche

Who are the Old Money? https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_money

What circumstances led to the rise of the newly wealthy in the 1920s?

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/history/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/business-america-economy-1920s>



Food and Beverage:

What was Prohibition?

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Eighteenth-Amendment>

How did Prohibition affect organized crime?

<https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2012/01/17/prohibition-and-the-rise-of-the-american-gangster/>

How was Prohibition enforced?

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bureau_of_Prohibition

What did people eat in the 1920s?

<https://soyummy.com/jazz-age-food/>



Location and Decoration:

Describe East Egg and West Egg.

<https://www.6sqft.com/architecture-day-trip-visit-the-mansions-of-gatsbys-gold-coast/>

Describe New York City in the 1920s.

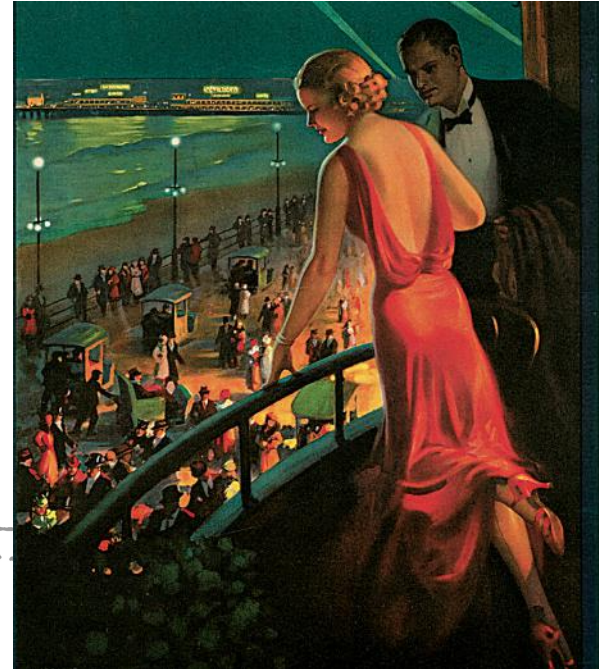
<https://www.boweryboyshistory.com/2013/05/the-great-gatsbys-new-york-city-in-ten.html>



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Conclusion:

Now that you've learned a bit about the time period you're working in, write a brief description of where you want to hold the party, how you'll decorate, what food you'll serve, what music you'll have the orchestra play, and how you'll appeal to different guests. Be creative, but be sure to reference the information you've learned in your research.



Note to Teacher: The links in this webquest were chosen for the integrity of their content, but content on the web is subject to change beyond our control. Please make sure these sites are still valid and appropriate for your students. Note that due to the nature of Prohibition, some websites do reference alcoholic beverages, which we do not advocate as part of the assignment. In addition, if you find that a website we've linked no longer exists, please contact us so we can replace it with an active website.