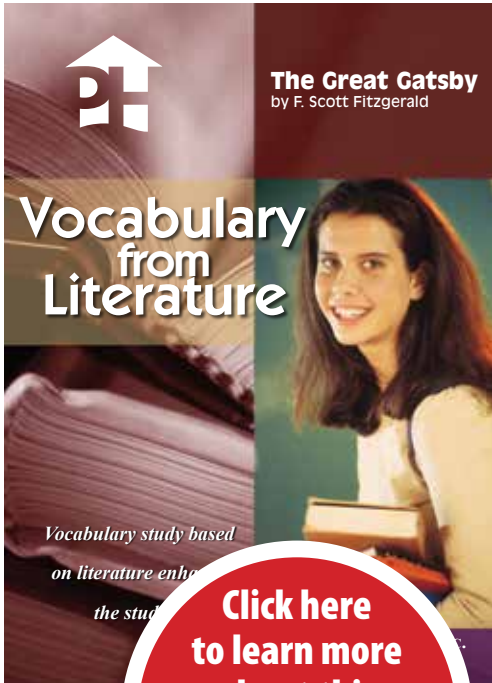




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The Great Gatsby

by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Written by Julie Carroll

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Vocabulary From Literature

Table of Contents

Information for Instructors3
Class Record Sheet4
Chapter 1
 ACTIVITY I5
 ACTIVITY II6
 ACTIVITY III11
 ACTIVITY IV15
 ACTIVITY V17
Chapters 2 – 3
 ACTIVITY I18
 ACTIVITY II19
 ACTIVITY III28
 ACTIVITY IV36
 ACTIVITY V39
 ACTIVITY VI41
Chapters 4 – 6
 ACTIVITY I43
 ACTIVITY II44
 ACTIVITY III51
 ACTIVITY IV55
 ACTIVITY V57
Chapters 7 – 9
 ACTIVITY I59
 ACTIVITY II60
 ACTIVITY III66
 ACTIVITY IV70
 ACTIVITY V73
 ACTIVITY VI74
Vocabulary Test77
Answer Keys for Activities81
Answer Key for Vocabulary Test99
Teacher Resources100

The Great Gatsby

Information for Instructors

The activities in this Unit are designed to help students increase their vocabulary by studying the meanings of words selected from F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel *The Great Gatsby*. All definitions provided in these activities are based on the contexts in which the vocabulary words appear, which may not always convey the words' conventional usage. It is the goal of this Unit to familiarize students with vocabulary words that they will re-encounter in life and other readings. The words are carefully selected to meet this goal. Rather than matching *The Great Gatsby*, chapter-for-chapter, we have divided the book into segments depending on the number of vocabulary words from each chapter. While all of the activities may be completed by students individually, we have had the best results when students worked on them in pairs or small groups. The following activities are provided for each segment. While the words in this reproducible do represent those necessary for a better understanding of the text, our primary concern is that we select words not only pertinent to the literature, but also useful in other aspects of the students' lives.

All page references come from the Scribner edition of *The Great Gatsby*, copyright 1995.

Activity I

Objective: Finding and interpreting definitions

Activity II

Objective: Deciphering the meaning of vocabulary words using context clues
Replacing the vocabulary word with appropriate definition and writing sentences

Activity III

Objective: Writing synonyms based on context clues

Activity IV

Objective: Demonstrating an understanding of a word's meaning by completing sentences

Activity V

Objective: Recognizing commonly used prefixes and roots
Understanding how prefixes and roots offer vocabulary clues

Activity VI

Objective: Using vocabulary words to complete a crossword puzzle

Test

A twenty question multiple choice test with answer key is provided.

The Great Gatsby

Activity I

**Matching Definitions
Chapter 1**

Directions: Match the correct vocabulary word from the list below to the definition. For unfamiliar words consult a dictionary, but keep in mind that dictionary definitions are more complete and you may need to interpret them.

riotous (4)	perpetual (5)	particular (5)	proximity (5)
fractiousness (7)	paternal (7)	imperceptibly (9)	egotism (20)
submerged (13)	profound (13)	ferociously (13)	fervent (13)
devoid (14)	contemptuously (11)	cynical (16)	uninflected (17)

1. _____ without variance or change in the tone or pitch
2. _____ with fierceness; savagery
3. _____ with scorn; with disdain
4. _____ believing that people are motivated in all their actions only by selfishness
5. _____ characteristic of a father; fatherly
6. _____ very gradual or subtle
7. _____ without restraint; having disorder
8. _____ a detail; item of information; point
9. _____ self-conceit, excessive reference to oneself; selfishness
10. _____ completely without; empty
11. _____ marked by intellectual depth
12. _____ hot; burning; glowing
13. _____ covered over; suppressed; hid
14. _____ continuing indefinitely without interruption
15. _____ the quality of being difficult to manage; unruly; rebellious
16. _____ the state or quality of being near; vicinity

The Great Gatsby

Definition for **reproach**: _____

Sentence for **reproach**: _____

3. Sometimes she and Miss Baker talked at once, **unobtrusively** and with a **bantering inconsequence** that was never quite chatter, that was as cool as their white dresses and their impersonal eyes in the absence of all desire. They were here—and they accepted Tom and me, making only a polite pleasant effort to entertain or to be entertained. (Pg. 12)

Definition for **unobtrusively**: _____

Sentence for **unobtrusively**: _____

Definition for **bantering**: _____

Sentence for **bantering**: _____

Definition for **inconsequence**: _____

Sentence for **inconsequence**: _____

The Great Gatsby

7. ...for the intimate revelations of young men or at least the terms in which they express them are usually **plagiaristic** and marred by obvious **suppressions**. Reserving judgments is a matter of infinite hope. I am still a little afraid of missing something if I forget that, as my father snobbishly suggested and I snobbishly repeat, a sense of the fundamental decencies is **parcelled** out unequally at birth. (Pgs. 2)

Definition for **plagiaristic**: _____

Sentence for **plagiaristic**: _____

Definition for **suppressions**: _____

Sentence for **suppressions**: _____

Definition for **parcelled (parceled)**: _____

Sentence for **parcelled (parceled)**: _____

8. I've heard it said that Daisy's murmur was only to make people lean toward her; an **irrelevant** criticism that made it no less charming. (Pg. 9)

Definition for **irrelevant**: _____

Sentence for **irrelevant**: _____

9. Before I could answer her eyes fastened with an **awed** expression on her little finger. "Look!" she complained, "I hurt it." We all looked—the knuckle was black and blue. "You did it, Tom," she said accusingly. "I know you didn't mean to but you *did* do it." (Pg. 9)

Definition for **awed**: _____

Sentence for **awed**: _____

The Great Gatsby

Activity III

**Synonyms
Chapter 1**

Directions: Replace each highlighted word in the following passages from the text with an appropriate synonym. As a last resort, you may use a dictionary, but be careful that the word you select does not greatly alter the meaning of the passage.

1. The abnormal mind is quick to detect and attach itself to this quality when it appears in a normal person, and so it came about that in college I was unjustly accused of being a politician, because I was privy to the secret griefs of wild, unknown men. Most of the confidences were unsought—frequently I have **feigned** sleep, preoccupation or a hostile **levity** when I realized by some unmistakable sign that an intimate revelation was quivering on the horizon...(Pg. 1)

Synonym for **feigned**: _____

Synonym for **levity**: _____

2. When I came back from the East last autumn I felt that I wanted the world to be uniform and at a sort of moral attention forever; I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart. Only Gatsby, the man who gives his name to this book, was exempt from my reaction—Gatsby who represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn. ...No—Gatsby turned out all right at the end; it is what **preyed** on Gatsby, what foul dust floated in the wake of his dreams that temporarily closed out my interest in the **abortive** sorrows and short-winded **elations** of men. (Pg. 2)

Synonym for **preyed**: _____

Synonym for **abortive**: _____

Synonym for **elations**: _____

3. And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees—just as things grow in fast movies—I had that familiar **conviction** that life was beginning over again with the summer. (Pg. 4)

Synonym for **conviction**: _____