This novel is rife with symbols, both physical and situational. Symbols usually also have many levels of meaning, importance to the characters in the book as well as importance to the wider world. Examine the following three symbols at both levels.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | The Green Light | The car crash | Gatsby’s name change |
| Character |  |  | *(Example)* Gatsby changes his name at a pivitol point in his life. The adoption of “Jay Gastby” symbolizes his dedication to his new, hopeful life and a departure from boring, lower class James Gatz. The change literally represents him rebranding who is as a person. |
| Wider meaning |  |  | *(Example)* Humans have the capacity to alter themselves, their outlook, and who they want to be. However, while people have that ability, one must be careful not to completely ignore the past… or try to relive it. |

Is Gatsby great? Come up with bullet points for both sides of the argument. (Hint: he’s great for more reasons than just his money)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Gatsby! That guy is awesome! | Who? That phony? Heck no. |
|  |  |

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness: many characters in this novel are searching for something. Come up with what you think each character wants and wheter or not they will ever be able to achieve it.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TOM |  |
| NICK |  |
| DAISY |  |
| ZOMBIE GATSBY |  |

Many characters in the novel appear to be complete opposites, but in fact have more in common than in difference. Come up with a list of similar characters then explore one pair in depth.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Vs |  |
|  | Vs |  |
|  | Vs |  |
|  | Vs |  |

THINK ABOUT THE PAST!