

Mr. Francis
American Literature II

Inner Monologue Response

One literary technique widely considered to be indicative of Modernism is stream of consciousness. Although perhaps most famously used by James Joyce, we see it used often by Hemingway and occasionally in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby (1925)--especially in the closing paragraphs.

Choose a scene from the novel to rewrite from the perspective of a character (other than Nick) by describing his or her reactions through inner monologue. It can be a scene that a. Nick retells in "real time," b. is full of indirect or fragmented dialogue, or c. he summarizes or otherwise implies. Examples of each: a. Nick reconnects with Daisy (chapter 1), Gatsby & Nick drive to Manhattan (chapter 4); b. Nick & Mr. McKee (chapter 2), Gatsby interviews Jordan (chapter 3); c. Gatsby meets Dan Cody (chapter 6), Wilson confronts Tom (chapter 8).

You should include several pieces of dialogue (original or quoted from the novel) for the other character(s) in the scene. Please find a way to indicate that text--dialogue or description--has been borrowed from the novel (using italics is the default). Your text should address one of the major thematic ideas of the novel, which include the success and failure of the American Dream, the emptiness of class distinctions, the significance of a Platonic sense of self, honesty about our identities and histories, and judgment of/by others.

Your challenge: To create a piece of original "fan" fiction that illuminates an augmented or new perspective on the events of the novel through the lens of one of its major thematic ideas.

Length guidelines: your monologue should be 200-350 words.

Format guidelines: All submissions must be double-spaced with a Courier New font and one-inch margins all around.

Assessment: Your response will be assessed pass/fail based on how adequately and appropriately it addresses the prompt.

Submission guidelines: Late submissions will not be accepted. Please upload to turnitin.com by 7:59 a.m. on the assigned due date.

Any assistance in completing this assignment (including your classmates, the instructor, on-line resources, any printed material, etc.) should be noted in your declaration. I will not tolerate academic dishonesty.

Conceived with assistance from M. Henderson and S. Oberfield, Stuyvesant English Department