**THE GREAT GATSBY**

2.The story takes place in the evening and at night in the beautiful and very big house and garden of Gatsby. There are a lot of people at the party and many of them probably haven’t been invited and don’t know Gatsby (l. 9-10). The people dance and drink and have fun. Some people speak about Gatbsy’s mysterious past

3.1 Nick is dressed in white (l. 1). At the beginning he feels uneasy because he doesn’t know anyone (l. 1-2), he observes the people around him, he feels embarrassed (l. 12) and he starts drinking to forget his embarrassment. When he sees Jordan, he speaks to her even if she doesn’t seem so happy to see him because she is the only person he knows. Later, he begins to have fun because he has drunk a lot (l. 73-74). He is obviously an outsider, he doesn’t belong to this world.

3.2 Jordan looks around in a contemptuous way (l.14), she answers to Nick absently (l. 19) and she holds his hands impersonally (l.21). All these words give the idea of a cold, indifferent and snobbish girl, who seems to consider herself superior to the others. She is a golf player (l. 24) and she is certainly rich. Her arm is slim and golden (l.29) because she is a sporty girl who spends a lot of time outdoor. While in the past people considered white skin a symbol of richness (rich people didn’t have to work outside), in this period suntanned skin becomes fashionable because poor people work in the factories and don’t have the time and money to stay outdoor, so they have white skin, while rich people can go to the seaside, travel and do sport.

3.3 Gatsby is introduced in an indirect way. At first Nick enters his house and wonders where he is, but nobody can answer his question; then he hears some people speaking about him. G. is clearly very mysterious, nobody knows his past and there are a lot of gossips and stories about him. For example, someone says that he was a German spy (l. 50-51) and that he killed a man (l. 46-48). In this way G. is introduced as a romantic, and maybe dangerous, character. At the end, G. starts speaking with Nick who doesn’t recognize him until he introduces himself. Finally, also the readers know something more about Gatsby: he is around 30 (l. 102), he is very elegant (l. 101), he speaks in a very formal and old fashioned way (l. 102) and his smile is very fascinating (l.96-97). Gatsby has created the role of the romantic and mysterious hero and he wears this “mask” in any situation (except when he thinks that nobody is looking at him, l.57)

3.4 The moon is usually a romantic and spiritual symbol, but here the materialism of this society has transformed it into a product (l.28)

3.5 This is a society based on money and economic prosperity, where people speak about business even at parties, (the English people and the prosperous Americans, l. 4-5). Nobody is really interested in the other people, in fact Nick doesn’t ask the men to repeat their names; everyone drinks and has fun even without knowing each other and their host. The only topic that interests everyone is Gatsby and his mysterious past. There are references to the most important industries of the time (bonds, cars l.6), to golf that is a typical sport for rich people, to the importance of money (the price of the dress G. that bought to the girl, l.42), to modern and very expensive means of transport (the hydroplane, l.81).