



**The Grammar Dog Guide to  
The Great  
Gatsby  
by F. Scott Fitzgerald**

**All quizzes use sentences from the novel.  
Includes over 250 multiple choice questions.**

## About Gramwardog

Gramwardog was founded in 2001 by Mary Jane McKinney, a high school English teacher and dedicated grammarian. She and other experienced English teachers in both high school and college regard grammar and style as the key to unlocking the essence of an author.

Their philosophy, that grammar and literature are best understood when learned together, led to the formation of Gramwardog.com, a means of sharing knowledge about the structure and patterns of language unique to specific authors. These patterns are what make a great book *a great book*. The arduous task of analyzing works for grammar and style has yielded a unique product, guaranteed to enlighten the reader of literary classics.

Gramwardog's strategy is to put the author's words under the microscope. The result yields an increased appreciation of the art of writing and awareness of the importance and power of language.



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**SAMPLE EXERCISES - THE GREAT GATSBY** by F. Scott Fitzgerald

**EXERCISE 5                      COMPLEMENTS**

Identify the complements in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*d.o.* = direct object                      *i.o.* = indirect object                      *p.n.* = predicate nominative  
*o.p.* = object of preposition                      *p.a.* = predicate adjective

- \_\_\_ 1.    In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since.
- \_\_\_ 2.    Daisy was my second cousin once removed and I'd known Tom in college.
- \_\_\_ 3.    Two shining, arrogant eyes had established dominance over his face and gave him the appearance of always leaning aggressively forward.

**EXERCISE 6                      PHRASES**

Identify the phrases in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*par* = participial    *ger* = gerund    *inf* = infinitive    *appos* = appositive    *prep* = prepositional

- \_\_\_ 1.    He found the house, a weather beaten cardboard bungalow at eighty a month, but at the last minute the firm ordered him to Washington and I went out to the country alone.
- \_\_\_ 2.    My house was at the very tip of the egg, only fifty yards from the Sound, and squeezed between two huge places that rented for twelve or fifteen thousand a season.
- \_\_\_ 3.    And so it happened that on a warm windy evening I drove over to East Egg to see two old friends whom I scarcely knew at all.

**EXERCISE 9                      STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**

Identify the figurative language in the following sentences. Label underlined words:

*p* = personification    *s* = simile    *m* = metaphor    *o* = onomatopoeia    *h* = hyperbole

- \_\_\_ 1.    "I'm stiff," she complained. "I've been lying on that sofa for as long as I can remember."
- \_\_\_ 2.    Wedging his tense arm imperatively under mine Tom Buchanan compelled me from the room as though he were moving a checker to another square.
- \_\_\_ 3.    "Her family is one aunt about a thousand years old.

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**EXERCISE 12 STYLE: ALLUSIONS AND SYMBOLS**

Identify the type of allusion or symbol in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

*a. war/military      b. wealth/affluence      c. religion      d. sports/games      e. music*

- \_\_\_ 1. My own house was an eyesore, but it was a small eyesore and it had been overlooked, so I had a view of the water, a partial view of my neighbor's lawn and the consoling proximity of millionaires – all for eighty dollars a month.
  
- \_\_\_ 2. I had no sight into Daisy's heart but I felt that Tom would drift on forever seeking a little wistfully for the dramatic turbulence of some irrecoverable football game.
  
- \_\_\_ 3. The living room was crowded to the doors with a set of tapestried furniture entirely too large for it so that to move about was to stumble continually over scenes of ladies swinging in the gardens of Versailles.

**EXERCISE 13 STYLE: LITERARY ANALYSIS – SELECTED PASSAGE 1**

Read the following passage the first time through for meaning.

We walked through a high hallway into a bright rosy-colored space, fragilely bound into the house by French windows at either end. The windows were ajar and gleaming white against the fresh grass outside that seemed to grow a little way into the house. A breeze blew through the room, blew curtains in at one end and out the other like pale flags, twisting them up toward the frosted wedding cake of the ceiling – and then rippled over the wine-colored rug, making a shadow on it as wind does on the sea. The only completely stationary object in the room was an enormous couch on which two young women were buoyed up as though upon an anchored balloon. They were both in white and their dresses were rippling and fluttering as if they had just been blown back in after a short flight around the house. I must have stood for a few moments listening to the whip and snap of the curtains and the groan of a picture on the wall. Then there was a boom as Tom Buchanan shut the rear windows and the caught wind died out about the room and the curtains and the rugs and the two young women ballooned slowly to the floor. (From Chapter I)

Read the passage a second time, marking figurative language, sensory imagery, poetic devices, and any other patterns of diction and rhetoric, then answer the questions below.

- 1 We walked through a high hallway into a bright rosy-colored space, fragilely bound into the house by
- 2 French windows at either end. The windows were ajar and gleaming white against the fresh grass outside
- 3 that seemed to grow a little way into the house. A breeze blew through the room, blew curtains in at one
- 4 end and out the other like pale flags, twisting them up toward the frosted wedding cake of the ceiling –
- 5 and then rippled over the wine-colored rug, making a shadow on it as wind does on the sea.
- 6 The only completely stationary object in the room was an enormous couch on which two young women

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7 were buoyed up as though upon an anchored balloon. They were both in white and their dresses were  
8 rippling and fluttering as if they had just been blown back in after a short flight around the house. I must  
9 have stood for a few moments listening to the whip and snap of the curtains and the groan of a picture  
10 on the wall. Then there was a boom as Tom Buchanan shut the rear windows and the caught wind died  
11 out about the room and the curtains and the rugs and the two young women ballooned slowly to the floor.  
(From Chapter I)

- \_\_\_ 1. The PREDOMINANT sensory imagery in the passage is . . .  
a. sight and sound  
b. sound and touch  
c. sight and smell  
d. sight and touch
- \_\_\_ 2. The underlined words in Line 4 are an example of . . .  
a. personification b. hyperbole c. simile d. metaphor
- \_\_\_ 3. The underlined words in Line 5 are an example of . . .  
a. personification b. hyperbole c. simile d. metaphor

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