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**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

**“Literary Analysis of The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald  
analyzed from a Historical/Psychological Approach”**

**Thesis Submitted to Obtain the Bachelor of English**

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## **Abstract**

Literature has been one of the most enjoyed entertainment and art worldwide for centuries. Despite the genre, it creates a feeling of affection and inspiration for the reader. Thanks to literature, it is possible for everyone to express their analysis and share their reading experiences through investigations, for example.

Following this investigation, the researcher analyzed the novel *The Great Gatsby* according to the psychological and historical criticism, which emphasizes the main characters' behavior and the effects on society during that historical period regarding the American Dream.

The investigation analyzes the main characters, Jay Gatsby's behavior regarding his obsession with Daisy Buchanan and how he wanted to control the future to make it the same as their past. The investigation and analysis of these people demonstrate the importance of creating healthy relationships and accepting that we cannot control our future or others' lives. Besides, the historical moment in that period is important to analyze either, since it is present throughout the novel, for example, in how the American Dream influenced the characters and their necessity of being someone in the upper class.

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## **Summary**

The following work aims to analyze the psychological and historical condition of Jay Gatsby and the other main characters of the novel *The Great Gatsby* through psychological and historical criticism.

The character's personality is analyzed with the help of different theories such as the ego, superego, id, and defense of mechanism, demonstrating Jay Gatsby's obsession with Daisy Buchanan and how the American Dream played an important role in this novel. Then, quotes, themes, symbols, and motifs were extracted from the book to be analyzed for the reader. Finally, the conclusions of the investigation and how the objectives were met are presented.

# Chapter I

## Introductory Framework

Literature meaning is applied to different written works, such as poetry or prose, which have the intention to communicate or transmit what the author wants the reader to feel. It will always help to address the conditions that may affect humans and their fears, doubts, or failures. At the same time, it will help the reader strengthen their understanding and comprehension qualities, connecting with themselves.

The main intention of this literary analysis will be given to the reader the analysis of the novel *The Great Gatsby* from a Historical and Psychological point of view and important information regarding that time. Besides, it will either mention how the American Dream influenced many parts of this novel or how the main character, Jay Gatsby, went through many situations in the company of his friend and neighbor, Nick Carraway, the narrator.

It is also important to mention the meaning, importance, and relation between literature/psychology, and literature/history, since this will show how literature, which is the root of this literary work, also influences the different literary theories chosen in any analysis or investigation. In this case, since the approaches that are being used are historical and psychological, they are the ones that are going to be mentioned throughout the work.

Literature and psychology are two branches of science that study the human soul. Psychology researches human behaviors and their causes, while literature depicts human behavior through fiction. A literary work benefits from psychology by successfully presenting characters, expressing their moods, and bringing the reader into the psychological dimension of human reality. (Emir, 2016, p.49)

Literature which intertwines within such fields as history, philosophy, sociology, psychology, and so on, is a discipline wherein language is used as a medium of expression to interpret man, existence and culture, personality, and individual differences, which have always

been studied and discussed by writers, philosophers, artists, psychologists, and psychiatrists.

(Lodge, 2002, p.251)

The main connection between literature and history is that literature is used to report and represent history. The two are, therefore, intertwined with one another. The biggest difference between literature and history is that the latter posits itself as fact, while the former is an art form. (Wollacott, 2022)

The Great Gatsby is a novel written by F. Scott Fitzgerald in 1925 and narrated by Nick Carraway, who tells his different experiences since he met Jay Gatsby, the main character of the novel, a millionaire man with a very mysterious past who loved to do luxurious and crazy parties at his mansion in West Egg, and also, he was Nick's neighbor.

This novel represents the portrait of American society during the early twenties, principally based on the American Dream, wanting to overcome poverty and be part of the upper class. However, even though many people were able to become rich, that did not mean they had the same privileges as the ones born in the upper class, in other words, those with an important family name. According to Thi Huong Gian Buil:

Gatsby suffered from his past trauma when his relationship with Daisy was broken, so he wants to recapture their happy moments. In his blind pursuit of wealth, status, and success, Gatsby follows a dream that ultimately becomes a nightmare. Undoubtedly, Gatsby has experienced a traumatic event in the past, and a traumatic neurosis keeps him trapped in a fantasy world forever" (Thi Huong Giang Bui1, 2012).

Finally, based on the information explained above, this work aims to analyze the different circumstances of Jay Gatsby as the main character in the novel The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald, mentioning how the idea of the American Dream was and how it influenced the character, also mentioning different consequences due to his decisions, and identifying factors

that may present a personality disorder in him, all of this mentioned above will be analyzed through the use of the Historical and Psychological Approach.

## **1.1 Problem Statement**

The Great Gatsby is a very famous novel, even used by writers to make movies of it. In this case, it is very important to understand literary genres and how they are necessary to understand literary criticism since this will help to know about concepts, principles, and different methods for textual analysis. This work will focus on the psychological and historical approaches since both have been very controversial and famous to the readers.

This investigation will be especially useful for students in areas such as literature. On the other hand, students and future generations can use this literary analysis to do their own and investigate even more or a different area/approach. The novel The Great Gatsby is a clear example of how it was living the American Dream at that time and how people were obsessed with seeking pleasure and power just for their benefit.

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald will be analyzed using the Historical/Psychological Approach, focusing this investigation on the Historical and Psychological circumstances of the 1920s. Consequently, the research question of this analysis is: How do the American Dream, its historical background, and the necessity of having everything money can buy affected and influenced Jay Gatsby's attitudes toward his obsessions and desires psychologically?

## **1.2 Objectives of the Investigation**

### **1.2.1 General Objective**

To analyze Jay Gatsby's circumstances in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby using the Historical and Psychological Approach.

### **1.2.2 Specific Objectives**

- To explain the idea of the American Dream and how it influenced the main character's necessity of having social status.
- To examine the consequences of Gatsby's decisions in wanting to control/influence the future.
- To identify the factors that led Jay Gatsby to show a personality disorder through his actions.

### **1.3 Justification of the Study**

The purpose of this literary work is to analyze different aspects of the novel *The Great Gatsby*, for example, the social background, the historical information regarding that time, and the psychological factors that influenced not only the main character but also the rest of them, and very important too, the contribution of different opinions, points of view, investigations, or analysis from other written works of this novel.

On the other hand, it is also important to understand that a literary work needs to be analyzed through different aspects, such as the author's life, ideas, social background, situations that happened in society while writing the novel, and how they could influence it. Analyzing this literary work from the Historical and Psychological point of view will make it even more interesting and rewarding for the reader.

This investigation will show the reader how society can influence someone and affect their emotional health and actions, not only by making them want to be someone else to impress the ones around but also by creating expectations that could not be possible just because of having money. Besides, this analysis will serve as a guide for readers and students to study and comprehend in a better way the novel *The Great Gatsby* and different aspects of the Historical and Psychological Approach. Sadly, due to different historical situations in the 1920s, it is possible to see the contrast between two different social classes, the ones born from wealth just for their family's last name and those who just lived more humbly.

Without a doubt, this analysis will help to understand the different actions of the main character and, at the same time, make the reader understand how human beings can be so fragile towards material stuff and disappointments, also see this novel from a different point of view compared to the one that they may have from the novel so that it can be comprehended and understood from a different perspective, but managing to teach and motivate the readers to analyze more each situation and action present along *The Great Gatsby* background and its characters in order to apply it in their lives.

#### **1.4 Antecedents**

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald has always been a very famous and attractive novel for readers and researchers. It has a combination of themes to analyze, among them the famous American Dream, corruption, social status importance in society, the role of women in those times, anxiety, obsession, hopelessness, and loneliness.

Sarah Pruitt (2018), from History Channel, in the article “8 Ways *'The Great Gatsby'* Captured the Roaring Twenties—and Its Dark Side,” analyzes that as a historical fact, it represents both wealth and decadence in the 1920s, since it was such a time of prosperity for so many, but also a terrible time for others. Exuberance, corruption, immorality, and the importance of social status were normal then. Also, an important fact to mention is that at that moment, there were more chances to consume different goods, such as cars, cosmetics, machines, etc. However, not everyone could, and due to this new way of spending money, marketing and advertising became more usual.

Another important analysis is the one from Carlos Adolfo Méndez B (1993) from the Liceo Rodrigo Facio, located in San Jose, Costa Rica. His article “*El Gran Gatsby de F. Scott Fitzgerald: Un acercamiento a su Intertextualidad*” analyzes the novel by demonstrating to the reader how the American Dream turned into a famous and romantic dream or phrase at that time and how because of wanting to keep this alive, many people reached levels of obsession with money,

important people, being someone in society, and belongings; just to be accepted by others and live in fantasy by thinking that with money they have everything and there is always a possibility to have their past back in some way and not accepting to live their present.

To continue, an important international investigation by enotes.com (2018) titled "*The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald*" explains the novel's historical context. The Jazz Age and the Roaring Twenties mentioned in the investigation began after World War I and ended with the 1929 stock market crash. During this time, the United States experienced positive advances, not only in the economic area but also in the political one. These changes made women decide to have financial independence and a free lifestyle. Because of this, they turned into the famous "Flappers,"; young women dressed up with jewelry and feathers and danced the Charleston, like Jordan Baker, the woman in the Great Gatsby.

Furthermore, Geraldine Rivas (2020), from the University of Alcalá, wrote her work titled "*El mito del sueño americano reflejado en la película El gran Gatsby*". In this analysis, the author explains how at that time, the society we see in the book, but also how it was in real life at that moment, was a consumerist society. Due to the lack of identity and uncertainty that dominated everyone during the war period, they were going through; however, thanks to this situation, the country managed to find its own identity in the '20s, calling them "The roaring twenties."

She mentions that the most important thing to notice in the novel is how the main character, Jay Gatsby, at first was just an officer who went to war, someone with low income, who just wanted to be with a woman he believed was impossible to because of his low social status. Nevertheless, as the story continues, we see how when he arrives in town, he transforms his life, becoming the most mysterious man in the place, always surrounded by luxuries and giving the best parties to people he did not know, just because of the desire to see someday his great love, but at the same time, trying to fit in with that high social status where he did not belong years before.

Finally, Sebastian Fälth (2013) from Halmstad University titled his thesis "*Social Class and Status in Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby.*" The author wants to show the difference between the divided society between West Egg and East Egg, both with different values at that time. Moreover, in the novel is possible to see how F. Scott Fitzgerald wanted to show East Egg as the meaning of the "old money" America and West Egg as the "new money" America so that the reader could see the differences due to the 1920s.

In addition, the example of Tom and Daisy is very clear since they always lived in East Egg because they came from wealthy families. However, on the other hand, Jay Gatsby was the typical resident of West Egg, a man without a wealthy family. There is where the main difference is found, on how the Buchanan's used to live without any worry, plan, or ambition, but Gatsby was all the contrary.

### **1.5 Scope**

- The researcher focuses the analysis on the novel's main character, Jay Gatsby, and his personality and actions, but also on how society was at that time and how influenced.
- The intention is to demonstrate the idea of the American Dream and its influence on the main character, the consequences of his decisions, the factors that led him to his personality disorder, and his different internal conflicts.
- Although many approaches can be used to analyze this novel, such as Sociological, Feminist, or Mythological, this analysis focuses only on the Historical and Psychological Approaches.
- This literary work analysis will be developed from January through December 2022.

## **Chapter II**

### **Theoretical Framework**

The theoretical framework is necessary for every research and analysis since it will mention an idea of the structure that the research will follow along the entire process, and in every chapter to be developed, it will also demonstrate the use and understanding of different theories and topics as part of this work. Therefore, this chapter will define and explain in detail the concepts of literature, theory, the different approaches to use in a literary work and also the ones used for this analysis, how to identify the themes, symbols, and motifs, also the author's biography information, and the plot of the novel *The Great Gatsby*, in addition, there will mention some important information and facts regarding the main characters so the reader can get to know them better.

#### **2.1 Literary Theories and Approaches**

The Cambridge Dictionary defines literature as “written artistic works, especially those with a high and lasting artistic value,” which implies that different writings are also considered art, with some special extra value due to historical existence. On the other hand, the Cambridge Dictionary also defines theory as "a formal statement of the rules on which a subject of study is based or of ideas that are suggested to explain a fact or event or, more generally, an opinion or explanation ."Literary theory can be seen as a school that teaches thought and style of literary analysis giving the reader meaning in order to create an opinion or critique. It examines literature from specific eras, locations, or even writers' backgrounds.

Literary theories were developed to understand the way people read texts. The exponents of each theory believe their theory is correct, but people interpret texts according to different theories at a time. All literary theories are lenses through which readers can see texts. These theories help readers to have a new perspective of the text.

Literary criticism consists of comments on selected works. The role of the critics is significant; they are supposed to critically review, discuss, and evaluate literary works. A critical review does not imply a negative or rejecting judgment, but a reasoned opinion based upon vital, analytical questions. They are usually written by experts in literature and published in scientific journals or papers.

Literary theory is the body of logical and not easy debatable ideas that will always follow a systematic order while understanding the text being read. All theories are interpreted in different ways by people. The benefit of the multiple theories is that they will always help the reader to see the texts differently and to have a new perspective on them since they will have variations compared to other people's interpretations. Also, many of them can be applied at the same time.

As a result of literary theories, literary criticism appears. This is critically interpreting a literary text with a literary theory. For literary criticism to happen, it is necessary to have a critic who has the role of doing a review, discussion, or evaluation of the literary work. In this case, it is important to mention that giving a critical review is not negatively attacking the literary text. Instead, it is to give a reasoned personal opinion, which can also be complemented with other insights taken from research.

In addition, it is important to mention some of the most common literary theories, which are Formalistic, New, Feminist, Psychoanalytic, Reader-response, Cultural, and New Historicism. First, Formalistic Criticism force the readers to judge the literary text by analyzing the main elements, like language and technical skills. Thus, irony, imagery, metaphor, and paradox are the main ones analyzed but also interest the setting, symbols, characters, and point of view. Finally, after analyzing each part, it is common for the critic to express how all the different parts make sense together as one and how they give meaning to the text. This will give the readers a different way to understand and value the work as literary art.

Second, New Criticism is principally focused on analyzing the structural elements of literature instead of emotional or moral elements. This literary theory proposes a close reading and a textual analysis. New criticism is a literary movement that proposes close reading, particularly in poetry, and textual analysis of the text itself, and at the same time focusing on the external, like the ode, or the internal forms, such as plot, tone, style, or theme, also the New Criticism looks for irony, ambiguity, and paradox, to help the reader to define the best interpretation of the text. In addition, it is recommended that the structure and meaning of the text should not be analyzed separately since all the information together will give the meaning, with a careful and exact examination of the literary text.

Third, Feminist Criticism is a critical analysis of literary texts from the feminist perspective, which also analyzes texts considering patriarchy, cultural institutions, feminine and masculine stereotypes, and the different inequalities or injustices between women and men. This literary criticism started in the mid-twentieth century. It developed around the 1960s and 1970s, but it was more common to read works such as Virginia's Woolf and Mary's Wollstonecraft critiques of the patriarchal language and how they usually expose the masculine ideology in literature, giving privileges to the masculine way of thinking and their points of view, while the feminine is completely ignored. During the 20th century, this literary criticism made an impact on the revolution of literature and women participation in it, making their social role and existence important and making them part of this reality and not being ignored.

Fourth, Psychoanalytic Criticism applies Freud and other theorists' "reading" method to interpret texts. It is possible to analyze a specific character within the literary work. However, it is usually assumed that all the characters in the text are a manifestation of the author's psyche. Sigmund Freud's principles of psychoanalysis, for example, the dream interpretation, are applied to psychoanalytic criticism to look for the neuroses and psychological states of the characters in literature to interpret the text's meaning. Further, this approach tries to psychoanalyze the author's unconscious desires, the reader's reaction, and the characters in the literary work.

Fifth, Reader-Response criticism is mainly based on the reader's essential role concerning the meaning of a text since the reading makes the experience of the literary work come alive. Also, an important fact to mention regarding this approach is its focus on explaining, defending your personal opinion, reacting to a text, and examining. Surely, it is important to show an understanding of the reading and explain supporting your interpretations from the analyzed text.

Sixth, Cultural Criticism is a recent movement that inclines to analyze a text within the context of the socio-cultural environment, making critics believe that every text should go through the lens of cultural context. This criticism shows how it is possible to examine different religions, political beliefs, or class identifications that may affect how a person could interpret a text and how it was created. As well as this kind of criticism makes people see the text concerning and how it competes with the different ideologies of the time and place where it was written, in the historical and cultural contexts.

Finally, the New Historicism critical approach examines works in their cultural and historical context. The main target to examine is texts from newspapers, poetry, novels, advertisement, popular music, historical accounts, and diaries. This will also examine how the writer's times affected the work and how it reflects it. New Historicism believes that reading a work should consider its genre, intention, and historical situation. Mambrol (2016) said, "A New Historicist interpretation of a text begins with identifying the literary and non-literary texts available and accessible to the public, at the time of its production, followed by reading and interpreting the text in the light of its co-text."

In this analysis, the novel *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald will be analyzed through Historical and Psychological Approaches. First, it is important to mention the meaning of Psychological Criticism and how it applies since it also stems from the Psychoanalytic Approach, which Sigmund Freud was the father of it. This analysis is the unintended message of an author that will focus on the biographical situations that the author went through, as the main

goal is to analyze the unconscious elements in the literary text based on the author's background and understand or interpret its meaning in a more exact way.

Beyond this, this criticism tends to analyze three main points. First, it analyzes the creative process, in this case of the writer, that will focus on the nature of the work and the way it is related to mental functions. Second, it analyzes the characters and how they act to apply the different psychological methods. Finally, it examines how different circumstances affected or influenced the author's behavior or motivation to write.

The psychoanalysis theory focuses on three parts of the psychic apparatus: the id, ego, and superego. First, the id is an instinctive component of personality, and it is part of the unconscious that produces impulses, like pleasure or other needs that will fulfill a person.

Second, the ego, Freud (1923) said, "that part of the id which has been modified by the direct influence of the external world." Most of the activities within the ego are unconscious, and it is how a person tries to act towards others and acts as the main decision-making component of personality since it just wants to satisfy the id's demands, seek pleasure, and avoid pain.

Finally, the superego is part of the unconscious, the voice of conscience and what we use as the source of self-criticism. The superego's main function is to control the id's impulses, especially those that society forbids or sees as immoral. It will always block all those unacceptable attitudes or thoughts.

Another important aspect of Sigmund Freud's theory is "The Defense Mechanisms ."This theory indicated how delicate and fragile our ego could be and the different ways that we often use to protect it from other people or situations. When a person faces confusion, disappointment, failure, conflict, and frustration, our psyche needs help to cope. Without those "psychological crutches," human beings can become stressed or anxious, so as an action to go against those feelings, the person can attack the problem and develop a solution, ignore the problem, and hope it will go away, or defend themselves (ego, self-esteem, image). We substitute a "good reason"

for action rather than the real one. Regression is reverting to childish behavior or habits. Sublimation that involves basic drives becomes expressed in socially acceptable forms. Other mechanisms include Identification, Insulation, Scapegoating, Intellectualization, Malingering, and Aggression (Dwinastiti, 2013).

Apart from this theory, it is important to mention that Freud also developed a topographical model of the mind. He described the features of the mind, like its structure and function. He explained it was like an iceberg for it to be easier to understand. It had three levels of the mind. First, on the surface, is consciousness, which consists of those thoughts that focus on someone's attention, so this is like the top of the iceberg. Second, the preconscious is all which can be retrieved from memory. Third, the most significant region is the unconscious, where all the processes happen. It is the real cause of the majority of behaviors in a person. After mentioning the different parts and their importance to each other, it is possible to see that, like an iceberg, in the example the Freud set, the most important part of the mind is the one that no one can see. McLeod (2018) said, "The unconscious mind acts as a repository, a 'cauldron' of primitive wishes and impulse kept at bay and mediated by the preconscious area."

The main goal of psychoanalysis is to make the unconscious conscious. This situation is why Freud realized how some events or desires were too frightening or even painful for his patients, for the patients was so hard to acknowledge those events or desires and believe how that information was kind of locked in their unconscious minds, which also can go through a process of repression at some time. With this information, Freud wanted to emphasize how important the unconscious mind is and how his theory says that unconscious minds may govern behavior to a higher degree than someone can even suspect or imagine.

The novel *The Great Gatsby* shows the serious psychological issues that affect the characters, but principally Jay Gatsby, the main character. This novel is a great example of the American Dream time and how it influenced people to seek just pleasure, power, money, and being part of high society instead of individualism and real happiness with having the necessary

and not pretending. As seen in *The Great Gatsby*, money can be easy to have sometimes, and it can be used to obtain other desires that humans want, but the mistake is thinking they can get whatever they want just to be wealthy. On the other hand, the novel will also show how the different relationships between the characters were extremely toxic at some point and emotionally dysfunctional. According to Edward-Mangione:

Psychological criticism, or psychoanalytic criticism, became popular in the early decades of the twentieth century. Sigmund Freud, who based some of his theories on analyses of literature, particularly Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, is the figure primarily associated with psychological criticism. However, Jacques Lacan and Carl Jung have played key roles as well. Psychological criticism frequently addresses human behavior—at the conscious and unconscious level—and the development of characters through their actions. For example, according to Freud in *The Ego and the Id*, a work of literature is an external expression of the author's unconscious mind (Edward-Mangione).

The next approach that will be analyzed in work is Historical Criticism. This movement is a historical, literary interpretation and analysis approach that has been used for a long time, perhaps one of the oldest and most widely used. The Historical approach involves events and experiences regarding the author's life, what surrounded him or her, and the social circumstances at that time, like events, ideologies, culture, lifestyle, etc., so it allows to make a more understanding text to inform the reader and also give an idea about the author's idea.

## **2.2 Themes, Motifs, and Symbols**

A theme works as a literary device that refers to the work's central or more important idea. Readers are the ones who should interpret or perceive what the theme is since identifying it will help to develop a greater understanding of the work, and that will facilitate better comprehension of the literary analysis. Readers can find primary or secondary themes in a work

of literature that maybe the author did not want to express to the reader, which is why sometimes more than one theme can be found.

The Great Gatsby is a novel with many interesting themes that will be explained in this analysis. The text may state the theme directly or indirectly since the author can present it differently. For example, feelings, thoughts, expressions, experiences, or conversations between characters may give an idea about it and a little insight into how the world inside the work goes and is seen by a human, or in this case, the reader. Moreover, some common themes that can be mentioned are good vs. evil, love, war, revenge, fate, etc., with the will.

The theme of a literary work is indispensable. It gives the readers a wider understanding of the main character's conflicts, experiences, situations, and emotions. Through themes, the author tries to give his readers perception of how the world goes and, at the same time, their own opinion about what she or he sees in human life. Them in a story will always refer to a deeper meaning with complex ideas, the work's central idea, and how it should be explored. Instead of mentioning it directly, the author wants the reader to explore it through different elements.

The American Dream is one of the novel's main themes, so it is important to mention information regarding that time and how it started to originate there. According to Diamond:

“The American Dream” has always been about the prospect of success, but 100 years ago, the phrase meant the opposite of what it does now. The original "American Dream" was not a dream of individual wealth but equality, justice, and democracy for the nation. Each generation repurposed the phrase until the Cold War, when it became an argument for a consumer capitalist version of democracy. Our ideas about the "American Dream" froze in the 1950s. Today, it does not occur to anybody that it could mean anything else (Diamond, 2018).

The American dream is the belief that anyone, no matter where they were born or what social class they were born into, they are capable of reaching their version of success in a society

in which they can grow is possible for everyone. Furthermore, the American dream is something that anyone can achieve through sacrifice, risk-taking, and hard work rather than luck. James Truslow (1931) Adams described it in his book *The Epic of America* as "that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement." The American dream was built at that time by different factors that benefited the United States compared to other countries.

In *The Great Gatsby*, we can see how Jay just wanted to do better than in his past life since he was a kid, but that completely changed when he fell in love with Daisy, and his main goal turned into doing better so he could have her love. Fitzgerald tried to portray this character as the perfect example of the American dream because he had money but still had it. He was not happy. In addition to this, with this example is possible to see how the famous American dream just gave an idea of what perfect life would be. However, it does not have limits for the seeker because there is something the desire of wanting more and not feeling complete.

A motif is a recurring element or idea that is repeated in a literary work. It is principally when the idea or image repeatedly occurs and grabs the reader's attention. Once that happens, it means that the reader has found the motif. As the motif can be an image, it is important to mention that it can also be a repeated phrase, word, or sometimes a topic. Moreover, as the motif can be a recurring act or situation, it can also be a sound, smell, temperature, or even a color. Undoubtedly, the main purpose of the motif is to help the reader, through a key aspect, to dominate in a wider and clearer way the main ideas, themes, and the meaning of the story.

In addition, it is common when the motif gets confused with the theme since it emphasizes the theme. In the case of the motif, it will assist the reader in finding and comprehending the theme. Also, it is important to mention that to identify a motif, the reader must pay attention to different descriptions, situations, narrations, or characters' actions, which are usually repeated. In the novel *The Great Gatsby*, the weather, infidelity, and parties are motifs that are present and, at the same time, support and point up the theme.

Finally, symbols usually are physical objects used to represent something else and help to associate or connect them with ideas or concepts. A typical characteristic is that they add color, depth, and realism to the story, which is why the author uses them to allow the reader to discover the connections between the different characters, plots, and settings. Symbolism can take different forms, as it can be an object, action, event, or a word said by someone, and it also can create a more engaging reading experience for the reader. In the novel *The Great Gatsby*, different symbols, such as the Eyes of Doctor, T.J. Eckleburg, Gatsby's mansion, The Green Light, the Valley of Ashes, East and West, etc., be explained in Chapter IV.

### **2.3 Author's Biography**

F. Scott Fitzgerald, or his full name Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald, was one of American literary and cultural history's most recognized writers and novelists. He was born on September 24, 1896, in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and died in Hollywood, California, on December 21, 1940. He was known for his jazz representations in the 1920s and his most famous novel, *The Great Gatsby*, but also at 24. He started his success with his first novel called *This Side of Paradise*.

His mother, Mary McQuillan, was from an Irish-Catholic family and was the heir to a successful grocery store in Minnesota. Furthermore, his father, Edward Fitzgerald, had a furniture business in Saint Paul. However, when he failed, he started working as a salesman, and due to his new job, they had to move between Buffalo and Syracuse in New York continuously. At 12, his father lost his salesman job, and they had to move back to Saint Paul in 1908 and live with his mother's inheritance.

He was named for his distant cousin, the writer of the poem that became the lyrics to the American national anthem. The family lived comfortably in a nice residential neighborhood but was not considered rich. In 1911, his parents sent him to the Newman School, a Catholic School in Hackensack, New Jersey. There, he met Fr. Sigourney Fay, who was considered his mentor

and encouraged him to work on his talents and follow his dreams. During his years at Newman, he published three stories in the school literary magazine.

Throughout his career, Fitzgerald wrote four complete novels, *The Beautiful and the Damned* (1922), a book first serialized in *Metropolitan Magazine*, then *The Great Gatsby* (1925). Thanks to this novel, Fitzgerald became more well-known. His fourth novel was *Tender Is the Night* (1934), ten years after the publication of *The Great Gatsby*, but sadly it was poorly sold. At the time of his death in 1940, he was working on *The Last Tycoon* (1941), a novel based on his experiences in Hollywood. However, just half of the novel was completed at his death.

F. Scott Fitzgerald married Zelda Sayre on April 3, 1920, in New York City. She was the daughter of an Alabama Supreme Court. Fitzgerald considered her his muse and inspired himself on her in many of his works. After Fitzgerald's first novel, the couple married and had one child, a daughter named Frances "Scottie" Fitzgerald, born in 1921.

Then, the author and his family moved to France, where he wrote his greatest novel, *The Great Gatsby*—published in 1925. *The Great Gatsby* is narrated by Nick Carraway, a Midwesterner young man who moves into the town of West Egg on Long Island, next door neighbor to a mansion owned by the wealthy Jay Gatsby. The novel follows Nick and Gatsby's friendship and Gatsby's pursuit of having back what he had with Daisy in the past, but everything he went through led him to death. This novel related to the Jazz Age and themes such as materialism, love, bad decisions, and the American Dream, *The Great Gatsby* is considered Fitzgerald's finest work.

Sadly, in the late 1920s, Zelda started suffering from mental health issues and moved back and forth between Delaware and France. Then, in 1930, Zelda suffered a breakdown, and she was diagnosed with schizophrenia and treated in a hospital located in Maryland. After several years of fighting against this, she died in 1948 in North Carolina.

At the time of his death in 1940, due to a heart attack in Hollywood, California, Fitzgerald went into some kind of obscurity since his personal life was chaotic and his literary reputation fragile, while he struggled with alcoholism due to his wife's death. His books remained printed, and everything indicated that he was on his way to failure. Hopefully, after World War II, people started showing interest in his works, and by the 1960's he got a place in the great 20th century of American Authors.

Not one of his books remained in print; every indication suggested he was on his way into obscurity. However, after World War II, interest in his work grew. By the 1960s, he had risen from the dustbin to secure a place among the great twentieth-century American authors. His works also contribute themes of ambition, justice, equity, and the famous American dream. Without a doubt, they are still present, part of our society. The next list is a selection of works by F. Scott Fitzgerald:

- Novels: *This Side of Paradise* (1920), *The Beautiful and Damned* (1922), *The Great Gatsby* (1925), *Tender is the Night* (1934), and *The Last Tycoon* (1941)
- Short stories: *Flappers and Philosophers* (1920), *Tales of the Jazz Age* (1922), *All the Sad Young Men* (1926), *Taps at Reveille* (1935), *The Pat Hobby Stories* (1962), and *The Basil and Josephine Stories* (1973).

## **2.4 Plot**

The novel *The Great Gatsby* begins when Nick Carraway, a young man from Minnesota, moves to New York in 1922 to learn about the bond business. He rented a house in the West Egg district of Long Island, a wealthy but also unfashionable area that the new rich people populated. Nick's next-door neighbor in West Egg is a mysterious man named Jay Gatsby, who lives in a gigantic mansion and throws extravagant parties every Saturday night.

Nick was different from the rest of West Egg's inhabitants; he studied at Yale and had social connections in East Egg, the other part of Long Island, but this one was fashionable and

full of upper-class people. One day in the evening, Nick drives out to East Egg for dinner with his cousin Daisy Buchanan and her husband Tom Buchanan, who also studied at Yale. That day, Daisy and Tom introduced Nick to Jordan Baker. She was a beautiful young woman with whom Nick began a romantic relationship.

Nick starts to get information about Daisy and Tom's marriage. Jordan tells him that Tom has a lover named Myrtle Wilson, who lives in the Valley of Ashes, a gray industrial dumping ground between West Egg and New York City. After knowing this, time later, Nick travels to New York City with Tom and Myrtle. At a disgusting party in Tom's apartment for his affair, Myrtle starts to bother Tom with sarcastic comments about Daisy, and Tom reacts very badly, breaking her nose.

As summer passes, Nick receives an invitation from Jay Gatsby to one of his parties. At the party, he encounters Jordan Baker, where they meet Gatsby, who was a huge surprise for Nick since he was a young man with an amazing smile who calls everyone "old sport." Gatsby asks to speak to Jordan alone, and since that night, through Jordan, Nick starts knowing more about his mysterious neighbor.

At the party, Gatsby tells Jordan that he knew Daisy in Louisville and is still deeply in love with her. He usually spends many nights staring at the green light at the end of the dock across the bay from his mansion. His extravagant lifestyle and huge parties are just an action to impress Daisy and have the possibility of seeing her one day. Gatsby asks Nick to arrange a reunion with Daisy, but he is so afraid that Daisy refuses to see him if she knows he is still in love with her. Nick decides to invite her to have tea at this house, but without telling her that Jay will also be there with them. After that day and that awkward reunion, Gatsby and Daisy started again with that connection they had in the past, and they started having an affair.

One day at lunch at the Buchanan's house, Gatsby stares at Daisy with such an obvious and notorious passion that it makes Tom realize that Gatsby is in love with her. Even though

Tom is involved in an extramarital affair, too, he is deeply angry and outraged by the thought that his wife could be unfaithful to him. After a short time, Tom starts to notice and suspect Daisy's relationship with Gatsby. After lunch, Tom forces the group to drive into New York City, all together, where he confronts Gatsby in a suite at the Plaza Hotel. Tom also asserts that he and Daisy have a history that Gatsby could never understand. Tom says that Gatsby is a criminal and that his fortune comes from bootlegging alcohol and other illegal activities. At the same time, Daisy realizes that she also loves Tom, not only Gatsby, so Tom decides to send Daisy back to East Egg with Gatsby to show them that he is not afraid and hurt due to the situations that happened minutes before.

While Nick, Jordan, and Tom drive through the Valley of Ashes, they see that many people are there looking at something, and they discover later that Gatsby's car was struck and killed Myrtle, Tom's lover, by hitting her. They rush back to Long Island, and Nick realizes from Gatsby that he is not the one driving. It was Daisy driving the car when it hit Myrtle, but then Gatsby, due to this love, intends to take the blame instead of her. The next day, Tom tells George, Myrtle's husband, that Gatsby was the one driving the car, so he concludes that the driver of that car, the one who killed Myrtle, must have been her lover. He decides to take revenge and goes to Gatsby's mansion. When he arrives, he finds him in the pool, shoots Jay to death, and then commits suicide with the same gun.

At the end of the novel, Nick plans a small funeral for Gatsby, ends his relationship with Jordan, and moves back to the Midwest to escape from that disgust and sadness he feels for the people who surrounded Gatsby and for the emptiness and moral decay of life amount the wealthy on the East Coast. Nick reflects that in the end, Gatsby's dream about Daisy was corrupted by money and dishonesty, just like the American Dream, which is full of happiness and individualism in pursuing wealth. Jay wanting to transform his dreams into reality and wanting to control the future makes Nick reflect that the era of dreaming, both Gatsby's dream and the American Dream were over.

The Great Gatsby is a novel about the impossibility of reliving the past and the difficulty of changing one's future, just like Jay Gatsby, the main character, wanted to do. The novel was written after World War I ended, as mentioned before, "The Roaring Twenties," or "The Jazz Age," a concept taken by F. Scott Fitzgerald during a period of enormous social change in America. Although the reader may know just a little about Jay Gatsby, Nick's introduction about him tells the focus of the novel. As it advances and Nick becomes closer to Gatsby's complicated world, it shows what he wants: Daisy. Even though Daisy's husband, Tom, plays the antagonist in this novel, other abstract concept like class difference, society expectations, and Gatsby's past lies, the main antagonist is time, which precludes Gatsby from recapturing what he lost.

This novel reflects different ideological conflicts in society, but this was the objective since the theme of the 1920s influenced F. Scott Fitzgerald, and he represented the figure of the "modern" social set of that time. Due to his experience, he wanted to create issues in America at that time, and that is how he wanted to reflect Jay Gatsby's issues related to the American Dream influence and the decisions that took him to his failed life and death at the end.

Above all, The Great Gatsby is the center of remarkable rags-to-riches stories about a boy from a low-income family who built himself up to be extremely wealthy and get out of there. The main character, Jay Gatsby, is someone who knew how it was to have nothing and then have all the money, surrounded by people that just wanted to assist his parties. Even though he had all that fortune, he was not considered the "distinguished society" of those born wealthy, like Daisy Buchanan, who came from a well-established family. The tension between the "new money" and "old money" is represented in contrast between West Egg and East Egg. West Egg is portrayed as a place where people made their money in an age of unprecedented materialism. On the other hand, East Egg was the refined society of those who inherited wealth.

The author used first-person narration because the reader can see the different events through Nick and what he shared. Consequently, since Nick was the only character who acted with ethics, he is considered the center of the novel due to his good character in trying to help

and always be aware of Gatsby's decisions, giving him advice that would help him instead of always taking his bad decisions in order to control the future. As mentioned, the novel refers to how materialism, society, the importance of belonging to the high class, the obsession with the past, and many different themes make part of this novel and the final tragedy.

Now to continue, as the last part of the plot, some details about the principal characters in the novel will be mentioned for the reader to understand their positions and actions in *The Great Gatsby*.

First, Daisy Buchanan, Jay's love. She is an attractive, wealthy, and superficial young lady who always loves to dress in white dresses and lacks character. She comes from a wealthy family in Louisville and is also married to a very wealthy man named Tom Buchanan. Daisy has a young daughter named Pammy, but she never feels that maternal instinct. She treats her like a toy because she is a bored and careless woman who always thinks about how her life will be in the next thirty years.

When Daisy was younger, she had a summer love for Jay Gatsby while he was in the army in Louisville, her hometown, where she always told him how much she loved him. Moreover, when Gatsby was sent to Europe to fight in the war, she decided to wait for him, but it took so long, and she soon got bored and impatient, so she began to date another man of her same social class and that was how she fell in love with Tom. Daisy decides to marry him, but a night before her wedding, she tells Jordan Baker, her friend, that she is not completely sure if she is doing the right thing by marrying Tom while holding a letter from Gatsby in her hand.

Second, Jordan Baker is also from Louisville, Kentucky; she was Daisy's friend. She is a modern woman without family, just her aunt. She is a famous golf player representing the new type of woman in the 1920s. She is strict and self-sufficient and always says she does not need a man to help and guide her through life. Jordan has a winning attitude. She always wants to go for what she wants, no matter what it takes to achieve it. Due to this attitude, she is a very dishonest

person who can lie to get what she wants, which is why she avoids meeting intelligent guys. Nevertheless, she loves to have attention from the men around her, always playing with their feelings and without any interest in a relationship.

Third, Nick Carraway was a young man from Minnesota who traveled to New York in 1922 to learn about the bond business. He lives in the West Egg district of Long Island, next door to Gatsby. He is Daisy's cousin, so he can observe, assist, and be part of the resurgent love affair between Daisy and Gatsby when they meet again. Due to this, and his tolerant, open-minded, quiet, and good listener attitude, Nick is the perfect character to narrate the novel and the different experiences he went through with Gatsby in the summer of 1922, but also the secrets that others trusted him like Gatsby did and treats him as his confidant.

Nick has a secondary role in the novel. He principally comments on the events rather than dominating the action. He functions as Fitzgerald's voice, but he also has an internal conflict regarding his life on the East Coast and cannot resolve it. Nick's attention was attracted to the New York lifestyle, but at the same time, he saw it as damaging and grotesque. The city made him feel to lose his balance, for example, when he got drunk at Gatsby's party in Chapter 2. He was attracted to Jordan Baker due to her vivacity and style, but at the same time, he hated her dishonesty and lack of consideration for others. After Gatsby's funeral, Nick realizes that the fast life on the East Coast is just a cover, and he does not want that for his life. Since he gained maturity while living there, he returned to Minnesota to have a quieter and normal life, with more values and happiness.

Fourth, Jay Gatsby, the main character, is a young man, around thirty years old, who came and rose from a poor rural childhood in North Dakota. He became a wealthy man who achieved his goals by participating in organized crime, including illegal alcohol trading. During his early youth, Gatsby had to work as a janitor to be able to pay his tuition fee, but he could not bear that job anymore and decided to drop out. Even though Gatsby always wanted to be rich,

his main motivation was to have Daisy love, the woman he met as a young military officer in Louisville before leaving to fight in World War I in 1917.

He easily fell in love with his aura of luxury and charm, but he was completely the opposite, so he decided to lie to her about her background to convince her that he was enough for her. When Jay left for war, Daisy promised to wait for him, but she got tired and married Tom Buchanan, while Gatsby studied at Oxford after the war to get an education. Since that happened, Gatsby started to dedicate himself to winning Daisy back, with material stuff and huge parties, just to gain her attention.

Furthermore, Gatsby decided to create his character, even changing his name to Jay Gatz due to his personality disorders, to make himself believe he was another person. This wealthy and powerful man reinvented his life. Gatsby's main goal was to demonstrate to Daisy how extraordinary he was by using his extraordinary ability to transform his hopes and dreams into reality. However, that same ability led him to believe he could do anything and have back what he had with Daisy, and unfortunately, at the end of the novel, he was unable to, and all his actions and desires guided him to death.

Finally, Tom Buchanan is a wealthy and classy man with a huge ego that makes him think he is better than everyone. He is also known for his physical and mental hardness with others and how his physical appearance reflects his mental inflexibility and way of thinking about the world. He was Daisy's husband, but the novel shows how they cheated on each other, still knowing that Tom says they will always be together and love each other no matter what. Due to his hardness, he is a man with a brutish personality who always uses threats or violence to have what he wants. He was a national football star when he was younger, but after his time in the spotlight ended and he was not famous anymore, everything else in his life felt like nothing and without worth or sense.

## **Chapter III**

### **Methodological Framework**

In this chapter, important aspects will be explained to achieve the best way this literary work's general and specific objectives. Besides, this chapter will share information and definitions about the qualitative approach. According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the methodology is a discipline's body of methods, rules, and postulates employed by a particular procedure or set of procedures. The one applied in this work since it focuses on collecting and analyzing words and textual data.

The methodology chapter has to define the chosen design by showing the reader the methods and techniques used for the research's main objectives or aims to provide reliable results. "Research methodology simply refers to the practical "how" of any given piece of research. More specifically, it is about how a researcher systematically designs a study to ensure valid and reliable results that address the research aims and objectives" (Jansen, 2020)

The methodology helps the researcher to choose a method so the data for the analysis can be obtained. On the other hand, they need to provide methodological justifications explaining why the method was selected for the research. Finally, in this chapter, the researcher will explain and mention how the investigation will take place, the research approaches used along the work, and how the data will be collected to achieve the expected results.

#### **3.1 Research Approach**

There are three principal approaches to collecting and analyzing information: qualitative and quantitative research. It is important to mention the meaning and importance of the Research Approach and how it impacts the investigation. "The research approach is a plan and procedure that consists of the steps of broad assumptions to detailed methods of data collection, analysis, and interpretation. It is, therefore, based on the nature of the research problem being addressed" (Chetty, 2016). analyzing

First, quantitative research deals with numbers and statistics, testing objective theories but examining the relationship between the different variables. This method is usually expressed in numbers and graphs. Besides, the variables along the investigation can be measured, so the numbered data can be analyzed using statistics procedures. This research can apply many methods, such as surveys, experimental research, observational research, and content analysis. On the other hand, it is typically used to test or confirm theories. In this case, surveys have multiple-choice questions, and experiments are situations in which the variables are controlled to see a cause and effect.

As mentioned, quantitative research is the systematic investigation collected via statistics, mathematical or numerical data. In order to be reliable with this method, it is necessary to be very specific with the different answers or results, using and analyzing the collected data with the help of numbers and statistics. Also, the researcher can observe people at the same time how they act in a natural environment where variables cannot be completely controlled.

Second, qualitative research includes words, opinions, thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and experiences. This type of research will go deeper into the most difficult or strange topics that the reader may not completely understand. Also, this analysis may consume more time since it needs to share more information. Qualitative research may be very subjective sometimes, depending on the approach used in the research. This research needs to have a solid basis in other research so comparisons can be made; at the same time, it will include detailed information, usually through quotes or examples, so their opinions can be illustrated. To collect the qualitative data, the researcher needs to do interviews that involve asking open-ended questions, creating discussions with people, gathering different opinions, a deep study about a person, group, event, or organization, or a literary review. In this psychological/historical analysis of the novel *The Great Gatsby*, the researcher uses the qualitative method, which is the one that better adjusts to the type of data and research questions so that the data could be analyzed along the work according to its different themes, topics, or areas. According to Bhandari:

Qualitative research involves collecting and analyzing non-numerical data (e.g., text, video, or audio) to understand concepts, opinions, or experiences. It can be used to gather in-depth insights into a problem or generate new ideas for research. Qualitative research is commonly used in the humanities and social sciences, in subjects such as anthropology, sociology, education, health sciences, history, etc. This research is used to understand how people experience the world. While there are many approaches to qualitative research, they tend to be flexible and focus on retaining rich meaning when interpreting data (Bhandari, 2020).

Finally, the last research method to mention is mixed. This one is principally a combination of both previous methods, qualitative and quantitative. As some data can be analyzed through numbers, other information can be evaluated through context, society, and participants. On the other hand, due to the specific purpose of this investigation, the method to be applied is qualitative. Since this helps to analyze the information more precisely, it is the best option to represent the novel analysis. Selecting the right research method starts when the researcher identifies the research question and study purposes. As well as that, the mixed method is appropriate for answering research questions that sometimes the quantitative or qualitative methods are not available to answer on their own.

The mixed method provides a better understanding when used and applied to the work, principally with the connections or contradictions between the qualitative and quantitative data. Moreover, it provides opportunities for the researchers to have opinions and share their experiences along the research process, simultaneously facilitating the different ways to explore it and enrich the information in a more profound way or in case of questions to be answered more precisely. As this work is mainly based on literary analysis, to provide the reader with the best information regarding *The Great Gatsby*, the decision to use the qualitative method is the correct one since this will contribute to evaluating the main theories, approaches, and opinions of the analysis.

### **3.2 Research Design**

The research design is almost the most important point while doing the research. This will correctly guide the research and show how the researcher gathered the data to create the literary analysis and the different theories or approaches. Moreover, the research design helps to determine the necessary tools to use in the research. Since this point is very important, the researcher needs to find the right research design type for her/his research. Some examples are action, cohort, descriptive, experimental, observational, exploratory, and diagnostic. However, in this literary analysis, the researcher will focus on the descriptive research design since this is the one that adjusts in the best way to the subject.

The descriptive research design is about describing the situation according to your subject. It answers the normal questions of who, what, when, where, and how that could be related to the topic. This theory-based design method created by gathering, analyzing, and presenting the collected data allows the researcher to provide the reader with the best information to answer all the doubts regarding the novel, in this case. At the same time, it will provide all the information the reader may need to understand the main research purpose.

Furthermore, it is important to mention that the researcher does not control the variables in the descriptive research design. Instead, the variables can be just identified, observed, and measured. Also, there is no need to have a specific variable since this design can include multiple variables for the analysis, unlike other methods requiring only one.

### **3.3 Information Sources**

Information comes from different sources, such as newspapers, magazines, books, theses, blogs, or websites. According to Merriam-Webster dictionary (2021), "information is the knowledge obtained from investigations, studies, or instructions. Now, the source of something can be defined as the person, place, or thing from which a person can get information. An investigation process needs to have the correct information sources, and there are three types of

them there are primary, secondary, and tertiary sources. This investigation gathers information from diverse sources such as articles, biographies, books, research papers, theses, dictionaries, and literary analyses.

First, according to Setton Hall University Libraries (n.d.), the primary source can be defined as a primary source is a first-hand or contemporary account of an event or topic. They are the most direct evidence of a time or event because people or things created them at the time. These sources have not been modified by interpretation and offer original thought or new information. Primary sources are original materials, regardless of format. Some primary sources are diaries, minutes, photographs, speeches, interviews, memoirs, autobiographies, artifacts, newspapers, journal articles, oral stories, speeches, works of art such as architecture, literature, books, paintings, sculptures, poems, and novels. To be more exact, primary sources are the information that an investigator can find to develop the analysis.

Then, the secondary sources, according to Harvard University Library (2022), are created by someone who did not experience first-hand or participate in the events or conditions you are researching. Secondary sources for a historical research project are generally scholarly books and articles. A secondary source interprets and analyzes primary sources. These sources are one or more steps removed from the event. Secondary sources may contain pictures, quotes, or graphics of primary sources. Some examples are textbooks, journal articles, histories, criticisms, commentaries, encyclopedias, art reviews, movies, plays, and indexes.

Finally, tertiary sources, according to the University of Minnesota Crookston (n.d.), are sources that index, abstract, organize, compile, or digest other sources. Some reference materials and textbooks are considered tertiary sources whose chief purpose is to list, summarize or repackage ideas or other information. Some examples are dictionaries or encyclopedias, almanacs, directories, manuals, handbooks, and bibliographies. Tertiary sources are usually not credited to a particular author.

### **3.4 Analysis of Categories**

A literary analysis is not exactly a summary of a literary work. It will be more related to an argument about the work, which can express the writer's perspective, interpretation, critical evaluation, or judgment. In order to achieve this is necessary to examine the literary devices, word choices, or writing structures the author decided to use within the work. Since the literary analysis makes a point about a literary work, it also needs to support that point by discussing literary elements like symbols, motifs, ironies, and themes. Besides, an important fact to mention, according to the Academic Center of Excellence (2009), stated that "the main purpose of a literary analysis is to also demonstrate why the author used specific ideas, word choices, or writing structures to convey his or her message."

The category of analysis in this research will be a literary analysis with a historical and psychological approach, simultaneously using the qualitative research method. Different psychological theories related to Sigmund Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, are mentioned, such as the Id, Ego Superego, and Defense Mechanisms. On the other hand, a psychological approach gives the reader a chance to understand human beings' behavior, which in this case is also related to the American Dream historical situation at that time, and how it affected them.

The book analyzed in this research is *The Great Gatsby*, written by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The main goal is to analyze the time when the novel was written and also different Jay Gatsby's actions and situations he went through, doing it from a psychological and historical point of view to understand the motivations, ways of acting, and even the end of the novel.

### **3.5 Data collection Instruments**

For this area of the investigation, the primary data is taken from the novel *The Great Gatsby* by doing a detailed and careful reading to collect the most important and relevant data. Thus, the researcher desired to collect all the data from the chapters by reading them many times to exemplify, understand and clarify the information best.

To follow, the research will create a table explaining different quotes or fragments from the novel. This table will be related to the Psychological and Historical Approach analyzed in the literary work. The table order will be the following. The researcher will write a quote or fragment from the book in the first column. Next, in the second column, the theory applied will be mentioned (if it is Psychological or Historical). Finally, in the third column, an analysis/interpretation from the researcher will be written based on the extracted quote or fragment from the book.

Consequently, the researcher must understand the book and the chosen approaches to collect and convey the correct data through a precise application. The researcher's interpretation will be one of the most important parts while the research, the further analysis and extracted data from it, by always keeping in mind the Historical/Psychological approaches chosen for this written work.

An example of the table elaborated for this research is below.

Fragment	Theory	Analysis
	Psychological or Historical Approach	

### **3.6 Collection data process and data analysis**

The process of this data collection and analysis will apply the following steps. First, the approaches used for this research, which are Psychological and Historical, will be analyzed by the researcher to provide different techniques or help while analyzing the main characters/situations in the novel.

Second, when the researcher has already identified the different behaviors and attitudes of the main characters by reading the novel with attention in a very careful way to analyze the

psychological and historical problems along the novel, the researcher will highlight important or remarkable quotes or fragments on it, that can reflect for the reader how they match with the chosen approaches for the research.

Third, when all the information is gathered, the researcher will organize it to proceed with its data analysis. The recollected data will be structured in tables. Each of them will include a column that clarifies if it is part of the Psychological or Historical approach, another column with the highlighted quote or fragment from the novel, and the third column will have the researcher's analysis of it. Finally, when the data analysis is done, the researcher will explain the different results from this analysis in the fifth chapter of the research.

## **Chapter IV**

### **Data Analysis**

Data analysis represents the practice or process of working and collecting data to have useful information, which can then be used to develop the investigation expectedly. Along with this, data collection is crucial to analyze all the data to reach the objectives mentioned in the research. During this chapter, all the information is gathered to analyze by the researcher to get the best possible conclusions and support decisions for the work.

In addition, Chapter VI will evaluate the analysis of the novel "The Great Gatsby" written by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The main purpose is to analyze all the collected data according to the approaches explained in Chapter II, principally the two applied in this investigation. Moreover, the main objectives of the research will be analyzed in this chapter. The researcher will write and analyze different quotes or segments from the book to determine the theory according to the Psychological and Historical Approach.

Besides, it is important to mention that all the information gathered for the data analysis is a triangulation of the researchers' analysis, the literary work "The Great Gatsby, and different opinions/analyses by experts about this novel. The main objective is to analyze the theories and amplify the data collection analysis in the different tables below. Finally, the researcher will also analyze the themes, motifs, and symbols present in the novel.

#### **4.1 Approaches to the investigation**

An approach is similar to literary theory; it will always have a literary criticism to provide the reader with different ways to understand the author's analysis according to the novel; even though there are multiple approaches, the ones applied for this investigation are psychological and historical. Following, it is important to be aware that anyone can analyze a text and get to their criteria and conclusions, which is why approaches are used since they help the reader focus and build a better investigation.

The novel chosen for this literary analysis is *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

This plot principally shows a dysfunctional love between Jay Gatsby and Daisy Buchanan, who fell in love when they were very young, but then they took separate ways. Not only both of them, but also there are other tragic and toxic relationships present in the novel between the main characters. The American Dream was Jay Gatsby's main life goal because he wanted a better life and social status, which is different from what he was born and raised in.

According to the psychological approach in this investigation, the main character, Jay Gatsby, will be analyzed from Sigmund Freud's theories, such as the Ego, Superego, id, and defense of mechanism, also different opinions by experts, and the researcher's analysis and conclusions based on the novel. However, not only will he be mentioned and analyzed since the other main characters influence his life and behaviors to pay attention to. On the other hand, the historical approach will be analyzed from the American Dream point of view at that time and how people wanted to reach it no matter what. They just wanted to be part of the high class and impressed with their material stuff, while others did not have what to eat, like Jay Gatsby and his obsession to become a millionaire to find and have Daisy Buchanan and her love again as it was in the past.

#### **4.2 Theories vs. literary work**

The different theories selected for this investigation will be developed and analyzed in this section of the work to provide a wider comprehension of the novel with a better explanation of it. The general and specific objectives for the written work will be analyzed in this chapter through quotes from the novel *The Great Gatsby* to show the reader the connection they have with the collected data about different theories and the researcher's analysis after reading the novel. To continue, the analysis in this part will present the different quotes. However, principally it will focus on the researcher's points of view and appreciation of them based on the data gathered from the novel and different sources used for the investigation.

F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel shows how American society was in the 1920s by looking at how the residents in that area usually behaved or related with each other. Besides, the author tried to show how all the issues/situations at that time negatively or positively influenced the main characters and the other resident's life, mainly focusing on historical and psychological facts. Nick Carraway, the narrator in this novel, was a very important character since he communicated and showed his point of view in the best and clearer way for the reader since he was always present and was part of almost every situation. There is no doubt that the chosen quotes mainly focus on Jay Gatsby and the characters that usually were around or had a relationship with him. However, at the same time, they will show how society was historically affected due to changes in their social status and how the American Dream played an important role in it but also impacted psychologically since there were toxic relationships, behaviors, or attitudes between the characters.

Table 1 represents the psychological and historical theories and how they are present in The Great Gatsby and its characters. The analysis will be applied to ten quotations from the main characters throughout the novel. All of them related to these theories amplify the book's comprehension and relation with both approaches.

Table 1 Psychological/Historical Theory

Fragment	Theory	Analysis
<p>“They were careless people, Tom and Daisy—they smashed up things and... then retreated back into their money...and let other people clean up the mess they had made.” (page 137)</p>	<p>Historical</p>	<p>Nick shows how Tom and Daisy’s indifference toward their actions' negative effects. He refers to the "things" they "smash-up," which were Gatsby’s heart, Gatsby’s car, Gatsby’s life,</p>

		<p>Nick's innocence, and Myrtle Wilson. Nick is outraged due to their actions and how they caused so much trouble. They used the wealthy as an excuse to have or do whatever they wanted to.</p>
<p>I lived at West Egg, the— well, the less fashionable of the two, though this is a most superficial tag to express the bizarre and not a little sinister contrast between them. [...] Across the courtesy bay, the white palaces of fashionable East Egg glittered along the water, and the history of the summer began on the evening I drove over there to have dinner with the Tom Buchanan. Daisy was my second cousin once removed, and I'd known</p>	<p>Historical</p>	<p>For Nick, there were two different Americas: the hard-working Chicago, which was part of some Middle-West culture, and the other is the "white" and cool East Egg. For Nick, it was possible to make it in the Middle West, but not on the East Coast life. It was not for him.</p>

<p>Tom in college. And just after the war, I spent two days with them in Chicago. (page 14-15)</p>		
<p>"Meyer Wolfsheim? No, he's a gambler." Gatsby hesitated, then added coolly: "He's the man who fixed the World's Series back in 1919."</p> <p>"Fixed the World's Series?" I repeated. [...]</p> <p>"Why isn't he in jail?"</p> <p>"They can't get him, old sport. He's a smart man." (page 112-118)</p>	<p>Historical</p>	<p>Meyer Wolfsheim was corrupt, and a criminal compared to others in the novel. On the other hand, there was Jay Gatsby, a pure-hearted dreamer between all of them, someone who wanted to be someone until the end and tried not to affect anyone around him.</p>
<p>She told me it was a girl, and so I turned my head away and wept. 'All right,' I said, 'I'm glad it's a girl. And I hope she'll be a fool—that's the best thing a girl can be in this world, a</p>	<p>Historical</p>	<p>Daisy made this comment when she was telling Nick about the day, she gave birth to her daughter, explaining that she did not know where Tom was. This shows how at the historical</p>

<p>beautiful little fool." (page 118)</p>		<p>time, women were seen by rich people as the ones who had to forgive and do anything their husbands wanted to. It is clear how unhappy she was in that marriage. Despite that, she does not seem eager to change that and continue with him.</p>
<p>In my younger... years my father gave me some advice... "Whenever you feel like criticizing anyone... just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had. (page 4)</p>	<p>Historical</p>	<p>Nicks' father's advice is related directly to history, wealth, and class inequality. This can remind Nick, and the reader, that much of his success is due to his wealthy upbringing, and thanks to that, he turned into an upper-class member, unlike Gatsby, because he really fits with Daisy and Tom Even though his father's advice he decided to ignore it and usually criticizes the lower</p>

		class. However, at the same time, he admires Gatsby, despite his background.
<p>There was Gatsby, looking a little, not much, younger—with a cricket bat in his hand. Then it was all true... ‘I’m going to make a big request of you today,’ he said . . . ‘so I thought you ought to know something about me. I didn’t want you to think I was just some nobody. You see, I usually find myself among strangers because I drift here and there trying to forget the sad thing that happened to me.’ He hesitated. (page 52-53)</p>	Psychological	<p>Jay felt he could trust Nick, so he considered him one of his closest and real friends. In the beginning, he lied to him about his life and past. He wanted to create a completely different Jay Gatsby and his past, which is why he tells him that he did not consider him a "stranger" anymore. Gatsby just wanted to protect himself from his past.</p>
<p>"Your wife doesn't love you," said Gatsby, "She's never loved you. She loves me."</p>	Psychological	<p>At this moment, Gatsby tries to do whatever it takes to win over Daisy. He wants to continue thinking that she never loved Tom or</p>

<p>“You must be crazy!” exclaimed Tom automatically.</p> <p>“She never loved you, do you hear?” he cried.</p> <p>“She only married you because I was poor, and she was tired of waiting for me. It was terrible, but in her hearts, she loved anyone except me!” (page 130)</p>		<p>anyone else. He refuses to realize that maybe she loves or loves him at some point. His desire or insistence about being able to repeat the past just shows how naïve and optimistic Jay was, especially since Daisy said she loved both.</p>
<p>"I wouldn't ask too much of her," I ventured. "You can't repeat the past."</p> <p>"Can't repeat the past?" he cried incredulously. "Why of course you can!"</p> <p>He looked around him wildly as if the past were lurking in the shadow of his house, just out of reach of his hand.</p> <p>"I'm going to fix everything just the way it was before,"</p>	<p>Psychological</p>	<p>Gatsby's insistence about being able to repeat the past makes him recreate everything as it was in Louisville when they were together, just to have Daisy back at any cost. He was very naïve because he was only thinking about what he wanted, and that also shows Daisy a cynical portrait of Jay Gatsby, someone impulsive.</p>

<p>he said, nodding determinedly. "She'll see." (pages 128-131)</p>		
<p>"Gatsby bought that house so that Daisy would be just across the bay."          "I think he half expected her to wander into one of his parties, some night,' went on Jordan, 'but she never did. Then he began asking people casually if they knew her, and I was the first one he found.'" (page 61-62)</p>	<p>Psychological</p>	<p>All that Gatsby owned: his house, money, suits, cars, etc., was just to get Daisy's attention and be noticed. It may look like he's living his best life and enjoying the present with all his big parties, but instead of it, he is stuck living a past that he cannot have again, and obviously with Daisy, like when they were younger.</p>
<p>His heart beat faster and faster as Daisy's white face came up to his own. He knew that when he kissed this girl and forever wed his unutterable visions to her perishable breath, his mind would never romp again like the mind of God. So, he waited, listening for a</p>	<p>Psychological</p>	<p>This moment and many others tie Daisy to all of Gatsby's dreams about having the best life, his American Dream with her. When Gatsby failed about having Daisy, he also failed with his version of that American Dream by her side. Sadly, at the novel's</p>

<p>moment longer to the tuning fork that had been struck upon a star. Then he kissed her. At his lips' touch, she blossomed for him like a flower, and the incarnation was complete.</p> <p>(page 134)</p>		<p>end, Daisy was unable to hold with his plans and projects, so she decided to leave and stay with Tom, even though she had feelings for Gatsby.</p>
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### 4.3 Themes, Motifs, and Symbols

In literature, a theme is the central topic of a book that gives a deeper meaning to the work and is interpreted according to the reader's perception. The central topic is usually shown through the characters' plot events, dialogues, or actions. Through themes, the writer tries to give a better sense of the world, a memorable, significant experience, and go into the written work world, analyzing it and inferring. It is important to mention that books can have more than one theme, and they will always give the reader a better understanding of the main character's conflicts, experiences, and emotions.

Table 2 Themes

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Society and Class	The class completely influences all aspects of life in this novel. There are many differences between wealthy people like Tom, Days, and Gatsby and the working class, the ones who live in Queen, known as

	<p>"The valley of Ashes ."Social status marked an important point in the novel since this determined how people could achieve their goals or just be someone important in society.</p>
<p>Love, desire, and relationships</p>	<p>The novel centers on two marriages and shows how characters are driven by love and desire in different situations. Gatsby has been in love with Daisy since he was a young military, and she promised to wait for him after the war, but instead, she married Tom Buchanan. Gatsby still feels that consuming passion for her, so he decides to find to have her back, but she is not truly in love with him, and he just has an obsessive memory of the past.</p>
<p>The American Dream</p>	<p>Gatsby is the main representation of it since he was humble and turned into a millionaire man. However, his life is miserable since money cannot give him everything he wants. Also, he was never accepted by the upper class. The writer wants to show how the American dream cannot make a person completely happy because they will always want more and more. Instead of learning to</p>

	appreciate the present, the obsession with the future is bigger.
Money and Materialism	In the novel, everyone is obsessed with money, some of them made it, like Gatsby, but others just inherited it from their families, like Tom and Daisy. On the other hand, there is an example of how George and Myrtle always wanted more, but even through their work and effort, they kept stuck in poverty. In the case of Gatsby, he was born into a humble family, but he always wanted to be more, so he left his home and achieved his dream to try to have Daisy's love back and impress her.

An image, word, sound, or symbol is continuously present in a story. A motif is like a repeated pattern. This literary device will try to catch the reader's attention, helping to understand the characters' important highlights and the different moments along the story that may connect scenes.

Table 3 Motifs

<b>Motif</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Weather	It plays an important role since, in different situations during the novel, it relates to the mood and atmosphere of the moment. An example is when Gatsby and Daisy meet after several years while a storm was

	<p>happening, and he was extremely nervous.</p> <p>Also, when Gatsby decides to confront Tom by telling him that Daisy never loved him in front of their friends, it was one of the hottest days in history.</p>
Love affairs	<p>Love affairs are continuously present in the novel. First, mention Tom's affair with Myrtle, his friend's wife, who is a kind of getaway for Tom to be away from Daisy.</p> <p>Second, the affair between Gatsby and Daisy is possibly the most relevant in the novel. For Daisy, it was a way of receiving the love and affection that Tom never gave her, and for Gatsby, it was a dream to be with her a long time ago. Due to these love affairs, the novel shows how the main characters were not completely happy or satisfied with their lives and just wanted to escape reality for a little moment.</p>
Parties	<p>Parties were so normal and repetitive in this novel since Gatsby loved to throw them and invite many people to his mansion, even those with no invitation. The parties were extravagant, with lots of food, drinks, dance floors, and amazing music, but principally people liked to assist just to prove their</p>

	social status, even though many of them did not know Gatsby in person. Gatsby's only purpose in organizing those parties was to get Daisy's attention, hoping to see her there one night and demonstrating how he succeeded.
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Symbols are abstract, like an idea or belief. However, they are usually conveyed through physical objects that communicate meanings and help to associate information with different ideas or concepts in the story, giving them more sense and explanation. Some examples of symbols can be settings, images, characters, or objects, which is why authors use them to give their work more meaning and not just base it on the story's events.

Table 4 Symbols.

Symbol	Explanation
The Valley of Ashes	This place is a desolate land created by the dumping of industrial ashes. It is located between West Egg and New York City. Its representation relates to the rich people's morals, corruption, social decay, and lavish and careless lifestyle during the 1920s. On the other hand, it also represents poverty, where the poor people live without hope, living among ashes. With this symbol, the author wanted to criticize how the differences between poor and rich people

	<p>were so clear and how the American Dream was such a hypocrite.</p>
<p>The Greenlight</p>	<p>The green light was in Daisy's East Egg dock, which is why Gatsby could see it from his dock in West Egg, across the water. This symbolizes the unreachable hopes, dreams, and desires for him to be with her. This green light separated them and showed the differences between East Egg and West Egg, including class, social status, and power.</p>
<p>The Eyes of Doctor T. J. Eckleburg</p>	<p>The eyes of Doctor T. J. Eckleburg are an old pair of eyes painted on an old advertising billboard over the valley of ashes, and they represented in some way how God was staring at and judging American society and its morals. After his wife's death, George Wilson saw the eyes and said, "God sees everything," because he wanted justice for his wife.</p>

## **Chapter V**

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

In this chapter, the researcher will provide and explain the investigation conclusions. Also, it will be mentioned some recommendations for other written works about this novel, the objectives and how they were managed for the readers' comprehension, existing gaps that another researcher can complete in the future, and information that can be used as a contribution to the investigation field regarding this novel or another one.

#### **5.1 Purpose of the Conclusion**

The conclusion is crucial in every investigation and will always be in the final chapter. The main purpose is to share the results and how the chosen objectives for the written work were resolved and analyzed along the process. Further, in this part, the author can comment or share with the reader his/her point of view the understanding after reading the novel and confirm whether or not the information gathered from different theories or investigations along the research.

Along with the recommendations and conclusions in this chapter will be some suggestions that can be applied for future investigations regarding this novel or another with different approaches and objectives. One of the main purposes is to provide a basis in which the researcher can take ideas in order to do her/his investigation and demonstrate to the reader how important it is to share those conclusions and analysis after reading the novel, but always keeping in mind the importance of the stated objectives from the start and the chosen approaches. Finally, a conclusion should provide the most useful suggestions or recommendations to apply to the research problem and the different limitations of the investigation. The scope is to facilitate and contribute to this process and, at the same time, help other researchers to see the possible problems or difficulties during the investigation so they can correct time in time to make it clearer for the reader while giving her/his point of view.

#### **5.2 Conclusions**

The main purpose of this investigation was to analyze the novel *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald by applying psychological and historical theories in the investigation. In this section, the researcher aims to explain to the reader in the easiest and most captivating way how the specific objectives were managed to get to their resolution along the investigation and get to the expected result.

To reach the specific objectives, it was necessary to deeply analyze the table with its respective quotes extracted from the novel, considering the researchers' interpretation and point of view regarding the novel and the approaches. Nevertheless, all the collected data are from different investigations or theories. In addition, the selected quotes were chosen to be analyzed from the researchers' criteria and related to the roles, behaviors, or situations the main characters went through in this novel.

Even though multiple approaches can be chosen for this amazing book, the researcher chose these theories since history and psychology trace important moments in everyone's life. For example, in the case of Jay Gatsby, it is possible to analyze him from the psychological approach. Either way, with other main characters, it is also possible, and regarding the American Dream and the importance of being "someone" at that time was a main goal for the upper class. However, these two theories were selected to best match the characters' lives and how the writer shows them in the novel.

**5.2.1** To explain the idea of the American Dream and how it influenced the main character's necessity of having social status.

The American dream was a much talked about topic in those times since it was something that many people, not only in the United States but all over the world, dreamed of to achieve a better life than the one they had at the time. This American dream influenced in a negative way the main character of this novel, Jay Gatsby, who in his youth was a person who came from a humble family, but always managed to get ahead, until one day he decided to go to the army. There was where he began to change his life.

Then, Gatsby decided to create a completely different life based on how the American dream changed his destiny and how he had become one of the men with the most money, but at the same time, one of the most criticized and judged for his lifestyle, which at the end of the day was only to try to get back his great love since he was young, Daisy Buchanan. The American dream led Jay Gatsby to think that by being someone in society and having money, he could achieve whatever he wanted and manage his future at will, controlling everything and making everything go as he wanted, and so it can be seen that this only brought problems to his life and the opposite of what he had planned.

**5.2.2** To examine the consequences of Gatsby's decisions in wanting to control/influence the future.

First, Jay Gatsby was a person who, since he began to change his lifestyle and since he lost Daisy to go to war, decided and was convinced that everything would be as he wanted from then on and that one way or another, he would become the person he wanted so much. In this way, the consequences he had to face because of his attitudes and desire to control his future were many and mainly affected his psychological state, his relationship with those around him, and with himself, but mainly with Daisy Buchanan, who was and still was the woman of his dreams.

Second, Jay Gatsby wanted to make Daisy believe that she was never in love with Tom Buchanan, her husband, for whom she had left Jay when he was in the war. However, it was almost a deception for him to want to believe and make her believe that to her, who ultimately chose to stay with Tom despite all that she lived with Gatsby when they met again. Wanting to control his future and life showed Gatsby how wrong he was and that not everything went as he expected, so he had to learn to accept what life had already destined for him, and that included accepting that Daisy would no longer be there.

**5.2.3** To identify the factors that led Jay Gatsby to show a personality disorder through his actions.

Throughout the novel, we can see how Freud's analyzed theories about the ego, the id, the superego, and the defense mechanism are present in Jay Gatsby and how wanting to control everything led him to have these personality disorders, making him also a person with pathological narcissism. The lies, his ego, the desire to appear to be who perhaps he was not, the loss of the sense of reality that surrounded him, and the achievement of having everything he wanted. The superiority he thought he had over everyone else and how he wanted to force Daisy to do what he already had in his plans manages to demonstrate throughout the novel how he only wanted to possess her and be the winner over Tom, thus demonstrating how explosive he was in order to achieve his goals, which Daisy did not like and influenced her to decide to pursue her life separately and away from him. The desire and how he deceived himself about the reality in which he wanted to live led him to give himself a big blow at the end of the novel, showing him how wrong he was, mainly with his obsession to have a life with Daisy for the rest of his life and see how it could not be given caused whole chaos in his emotional health.

### **5.3 Restatement of the Research Question**

**How do the American Dream, its historical background, and the necessity of having everything money can buy affected and influenced Jay Gatsby's attitudes toward his obsessions and desires psychologically?**

Once analyzed the approaches and the behaviors of the main characters in the novel, with the help of different theories like Sigmund Freud's and collected data from other investigations, the researcher can see how Jay Gatsby was not in his best mental state since he was obsessed with having his past life with Daisy, who he was in love with, and wanted to get her attention through money, material stuff and a big mansion, that is why he used to throw those big parties, never losing hope about seeing her again.

On the other hand, the obsession about being with Daisy led him to be a different person or make others think that about him. Jay Gatsby was continuously attacked with gossip about his life and his past, about his businesses and family. That is why he decided to develop some ego as a defense mechanism from all those critiques along his new life. For example, he created a completely different story for Nick Carraway, his neighbor and friend, telling him how he became a millionaire, and this is how the famous American Dream at that moment affected Gatsby so much, but not also try to cheat himself with that idea, but also with his relationship with Daisy in the past, he did not want to accept that she wanted to be with another man, and that is why he created all this new life and the new millionaire, Jay Gatsby, to forget all that hurt him in the past.

Jay Gatsby always tried to convince himself and Daisy about her inexistent love for Tom Buchanan, her husband. However, it was just some kind of fantasy that he wanted to believe for his good and continue in that fake reality since he just wanted to have all from Daisy, all her love and attention. Sadly, due to all these situations, he became a little defensive with people, including Daisy, which was one of the main reasons his relationship was ruined.

Besides, after analyzing all the behaviors, experiences, and attitudes between all the characters, but principally Jay and Daisy, at the end, when she decided to leave with Tom and Jay had that hope about receiving a call from her someday, shows how Gatsby's expectations and how he planned his future did not go as he wanted to, everything was lost. His obsession for being someone else to have her and be an important person for the upper class led him to misfortune.

Finally, at the novel's end, Gatsby tries to accept reality and continue his life without her. In his loneliness, he understood that what he wanted was not possible and lost control of it. Despite this happened, the novel ended up with a fatal situation, when someone decided to take his life away, even though he was a good person, with the

possibility of having a great future, healing, and maybe creating a life that makes him good, a miss-understanding led to this tragedy.

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

Once the research and analysis are concluded is important to give recommendations for future researchers regarding this topic or any other. All suggestions about how the investigation can be improved or developed in different areas will be mentioned in this section based on the researchers' personal experiences along the written work. Following, the researcher shares the following recommendations based on the investigations collected data:

1. The objectives need to be planned and stated in the best way possible since they will guide you through the whole work, so dedicate the necessary time to think and formulate them to make it simple. Also, it is important to remember that the researcher needs to have the objectives in mind during the whole process and never change them once they are already created.
2. Collecting data from the novel is mandatory because it will help with the research development, as the researcher pays much attention to all the details and analyzes them very carefully. The researcher needs to be familiarized with the literary work that will be analyzed. Due to this, it is necessary to take time to read as many times as needed.
3. The researcher should create a schedule before starting the investigation. Organizing is a very important step in any task you are about to enroll in. In a calendar created on your own, you can set by day or week your goals according to every chapter, and this will help you as
4. The context of the author's background and the time the novel was written helps the researcher to understand in a wider way what the author wanted to reflect in the novel

regarding the situations in that period or the characters' behaviors, taking into consideration time, location, political issues, and relationships between the characters.

5. The Great Gatsby is a novel with multiple characters and each of them with different lifestyles and stories which led them to behave and act in specific ways throughout the novel due to different psychological issues in the past or present, toxicity between them, obsessions with other people or with material stuff, or traumas caused by someone else or their life situations. Based on those situations, it is possible to see how the defense mechanism is continuously present in many of them, which is why it is one of the main topics to analyze profoundly.
6. Multiple themes can be used to analyze The Great Gatsby. The ones chosen for this investigation were historical and psychological. Despite it, it is vital to notice how the American Dream impacted society in that period and how that influenced those negative behaviors in people.

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