**THE GREAT GATSBY – THEMES**

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| ***Realistic Goals*** | One should set realistic goals for life, ones you can achieve and obtain (not idealistic goals). |
| ***Ambition*** | Drive and ambition can go too far – leads to destruction |
| ***Wealth*** | Wealth and materialism may appear to be beneficial (e.g. upper class can do things the lower class can’t) but is shows it is a hindrance to achieving life-long goals/true friendship/loyalty etc |
| ***Faith*** | Faith/religious moral values are absent amongst the upper class. The eye symbolism of Dr T. J. Eckleburg represent God and the lack of Godliness in the lives of the materialistic characters. |
| ***Fate:******Circumstances*** | The struggle Gatsby endures to achieve his dreams inevitably seals his fate (suffers his premature demise). The fate of the American Dream. |
| ***Friendship*** | Money can’t buy friendship. |
| ***Family*** | The lack of family and self-centredness of the characters. |
| ***Idealistic Dreams*** | Idealistic v’s Realistic dreams/goals. Dreams are useful to a point but when they consume the dreamer, they lead to destruction. There is a thin line separating dreams from reality. Gatsby’s life is built around illusions. |