

Gatsby Voicethread Project

Voice Your Mind!

We've been analyzing color connotation as we've read *The Great Gatsby*. Now it's time for us to analyze a particular color in depth, to see how Fitzgerald uses the color throughout the novel:

- Where do we see instances of the color throughout the novel?
- What are the connotations of the color, particularly in each instance it is used in the book?
- What was Fitzgerald ultimately trying to say through his use of that color—about the time period, about life, about the human condition?
- How do—or do they—these ideas still apply today? Do we see similar ideas, situations in our own time?

Your task is to use Voicethread to create a multimedia presentation of the group's analysis of the symbolism of a selected color in *The Great Gatsby*.

This is a **collaborative** project in every sense of the word: your group will not succeed unless everyone contributes. Each member's ideas, as you discuss, brainstorm, plan, draft, and storyboard, are valuable and help make the finished product better. When the project moves to the production phase, each one of you will choose a particular role so that the group can effectively and efficiently complete the project.

Agree on job assignments for each member of the group, making certain everyone understands his or her responsibilities.

Production Phase: Job Assignments



Digital Image Locaters

The digital image locater's job is—you guessed it—locating the digital images you will use for your project. Thus, these two people have the following duties:

- ✓ Snap pictures or locate the highest quality, most fitting images for the presentation. Remember, images may literally or metaphorically represent ideas or concepts: they can be photos, charts or graphs, maps, slides, screenshots of web pages, hand-drawn illustrations, original snapshots—whatever images best convey the ideas and capture the audience's attention.
- ✓ Save (or link to) all images in a location accessible by everyone in group. Consider creating a wiki for the project and saving all work to the wiki. This way, even when one student is MIA, the group isn't left in the lurch.
- ✓ Ensure images are not copyright protected and that the source/author of each image not photographed personally is documented. Decide what format for documentation best suits the format of your presentation (formal citation, author and source hyperlinked to original image, sources posted throughout presentation or at the end of presentation...). Be prepared to explain why you chose a particular format for documenting sources.
- ✓ While the graphic designer is uploading photos, compile the list of sources to include in presentation.

Names of two Digital Image Locaters: _____ and _____



Graphic Designer

The graphic designer is responsible for creating the actual slideshow on Voicethread. Thus, this person has the following duties:

- ✓ Upload images to Voicethread. If the group has posted images on a wiki, you can simply right click on image, scroll down to properties, and copy the image URL. You can then paste the URL into Voicethread and watch the image magically appear!
- ✓ Arrange the photos in the appropriate order.
- ✓ Add any doodles or text as established by the group.
- ✓ As you create the presentation, act as project editor evaluating the group's plan. Do the series of images adequately convey your ideas? Do you need more, less, different images? Have you omitted information that you need to include? Does each image convey a particular idea or concept, or would a different image work better? Does the order of images make sense?

Name of Graphic Designer: _____



Audio Specialist

The audio specialist is responsible for finalizing and typing the written script planned by the group for the voice narration. Thus, this person has the following duties:

- ✓ While the other three members are working on photos, finalize and type the script for voice narration. Act as a project editor, evaluate the quality of the script, and, if needed, bring together the group to make needed revisions:
 - Have you included a creative attention-getter?
 - Is the purpose of your presentation clear?
 - Do you use transitions throughout the presentation as you move from one idea to the next? Do your transitions provide continuity—tying the whole presentation together so that it flows smoothly?
 - Have you organized your ideas in a way that makes sense?
 - Does your dialogue add information the audience can't get from looking at the on-screen image; i.e., you're not simply repeating what's on-screen, are you?
 - Does the dialogue match the mood of the presentation? If the images are playful, is the dialogue light—maybe witty? If the images or content is serious, does the dialogue compliment the seriousness?
 - Taken as a whole, does the script adequately convey your ideas and accomplish the purpose of your presentation?
- ✓ Once the images are uploaded to Voicethread, manage recording voice narration. The script should utilize multiple characters and include voices from most—if not all—members of the group.

Name of Audio Specialist: _____