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ANSWER SHEET
FEUILLE DE RÉPONSES
HOJA DE RESPUESTAS

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Examiner
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In both The Outsider and The Great Gatsby, there is a strong sense of the theme 'appearance against reality'. In The Outsider, Camus portrays reality through Meursault; in the way he reacts to events around him, as well as in the way he ~~perceives~~ ^{perceives} others. In Gatsby, Fitzgerald constructs a world with 'otherworldly' glamour, primarily shown in Gatsby and his parties, and yet relates this to glamour to the real world with how 'un-authentic' it is. This essay will be exploring this theme in relation to both novels, and how they work to convey the intentions of either author.

~~Examiner~~ In Meursault, Camus creates a character who is largely indifferent to everything around him, as shown in his lack of any depth of feeling towards his mother's funeral in chapter one, ~~in where he focus~~ instead Meursault focuses primarily on his physical discomfort, due to the extreme heat of the sun. This lack of any emotional attachment is also seen clearly in his interactions with other characters in the novel, such as Marie. When Marie asks Meursault if he loved her, he admitted that he 'probably did not', indicating that he enjoys Marie's ~~last~~ company on a superficial level, with no great depth to their relationship.

This personification of Meursault ~~also~~ suggests that there is no ~~just~~ actual depth to human relationships; that humans are naturally uncaring toward others. Combined with the fact that, at various points in the novel, other characters have tried to impose societal conventions onto Meursault, ~~such~~ such as the Chaplain in chapter 5 of part two, and Salamano and Raymond when they assume Meursault is in grief due to his mother's passing in part one. ~~It is~~ Keeping in mind that Camus was an existentialist writer, it is highly plausible that, in the novel, the imposition of societal conventions could be representative of a 'fake' world, whereas the 'real' world is seen through Meursault's eyes.

explain further with more contextual details

Camus, therefore, portrays the 'real' world, as one in which nothing actually matters. This is shown in the actions of Meursault when he smokes in front of his dead mother in the coffin in chapter one of part one, as well as the indifferent and amoral nature of his narrative. This then indicates that the conventional actions of society have a lack of meaning and hence be considered 'fake'. An example of such an action would be the court formalities in chapter three of part 2, where those in the stands rise for the entrance of the judges only to sit down immediately after.

This aspect of ~~the~~ This aspect of meaninglessness and of being fake extends to characters in the novel. The 'peculiar' mechanical woman who first appears in ~~chapter~~ part one when she sits at Meursault's table at Celeste's, and appears again in court in part two, remains unnamed throughout the novel. She contributes no plot, and is simply someone who

could be more detailed

develop more



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some extent, be considered 'false', as she may as well have not existed in the novel at all. Characters such as ~~the policeman in part one of the novel~~ can be considered to be somewhat 'fake', as

As such, Camus has created an interesting paradox in the novel. Most characters in the novel follow social conventions, which represent something of a 'fake' world, as it is not true to human nature. There is also the presence of minor characters like the unnamed woman who emphasize meaninglessness in the novel. The 'real' world is seen by only ~~a~~ Meursault, and Camus emphasizes this reality with Meursault's actions and narrative to indicate the lack of meaning in human actions.

This 'reality' is directly mentioned in chapter five of part two, where Meursault explodes in rage toward the chaplain. He ~~directly mentions~~ ^{implies} that the chaplain ~~couldn't~~ ^{formal conventions, please} even be sure if he was alive as he ~~may~~ was living a lie, whereas Meursault himself is more sure of his own life, where his ~~only~~ conviction is cemented in the inevitability of his execution. Through this Camus effectively conveys the ideas of existentialism and absurdism and that the lives which most people live are fraught

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 Permitt
 - insightful

Nick's narration highlights the majestic grandeur of events in the novel, most obvious being Gatsby's parties. There is genuine charm from the glamour expressed in Nick's description, and yet the parties are undercut by various aspects. Nick describes the guests to the parties as 'moths' in chapter three. This suggests the ~~idea of~~ phrase 'moths to a flame', suggesting that the 'flame' is the party itself, indicating that perhaps it is an extremely vulgar affair. Furthermore, Nick also describes the guests as 'men' and ~~young~~ 'girls'. The use of 'girls' suggest two things, that the guests are literally young girls chasing after rich older men, or that they are older women trying to appear ~~younger~~ and ~~acting~~ act younger. Both interpretations suggest a 'fakeness' about the guests, and ~~this~~ contradicts with the popular notion of the 'new independent American woman' of ~~that time~~ specific time period.

specific time period
more on contextual
background



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more details
yes?

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Gatsby's own persona is fake, ~~faking the~~ and is literally 'unhindered by the restrictions of reality'. ~~James Gatsby~~ Jay Gatsby is not ~~only~~ his actual name; he had thought it up on his meeting with Dan Cody as a young boy. Furthermore, his wealth is not ~~so~~ 'real'. This is seen in two aspects of the novel. Firstly, Gatsby is shown to be unaccepted by the 'old rich' in the novel, such as when he is not welcome at the dinner mentioned by Mrs Sloane in chapter 6, emphasized by Tom's remark that 'he won't know a soul there'. ~~Also~~ Secondly, his wealth is not obtained through honest means, as Gatsby's underground dealings are hinted at by 'bootlegging' and dubious phone calls throughout the novel.

~~The~~ The idea of ~~the~~ Gatsby's desire ~~to~~ for wealth and appearances is highlighted in the epigraph of the novel, which ~~highlights~~ emphasizes Gatsby's ~~desire~~ want for wealth to charm Daisy. Gatsby's 'larger than life' relationship with Daisy is also ultimately ~~des~~ destroyed in the novel, ~~by the~~ after the scene at the ~~pl~~ Plaza Hotel in chapter 7, and symbolized by Gatsby's own death.

Hence through a d... n... a... i... a...

Fitzgerald has presented an 'otherworldly' glamour which ~~is~~ is synonymous with Gatsby's 'otherworldly' personality, both of which exceed the restrictions of reality. However, Fitzgerald also presents the brutal reality of Gatsby being taken advantage of, and how he was never able to achieve the only thing he had wanted, which was ~~a~~ a life with Daisy. Through this, Fitzgerald has conveyed effectively the theme of appearances against reality, as well as his criticisms of the American society at the time. specifically?

In conclusion, both Camus and Fitzgerald write about ^{the} ~~the~~ 'real world' and a somewhat 'fake' one in their respective novels. In The Outsider, Camus portrays Meursault as representative of the 'true' human nature and hence the 'real' world, whereas Fitzgerald focuses more on the ~~unreal~~ 'otherworldly' nature of Gatsby, whilst gradually tearing down his glamorous image with hints of the ~~reality~~ realities of his wealth and relationship with Daisy ~~throughout~~ as the novel progresses, effectively portraying Gatsby as somewhat of a tragic character.

Strong grasp of
texts - subtleties
based on ideas &
characterisation

Clear grasp of the
the assumption of
'fake' could be spelled out