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ANSWER SHEET
FEUILLE DE RÉPONSES
HOJA DE RESPUESTAS

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examiner

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The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald and The Outsider

by Albert Camus are two seminal and influential novels written in the 20th century. Both conceived and written in the wake of the two Great Wars both works attempt to explore the complexity of human nature and the "truths governing it". Much of the subject matter brought up by both authors were relevant during their time and still is today, underscoring the "timeless and universal" quality of their works. ~~This~~ This essay shall attempt to elucidate the ideas ^{put} forth by both authors that pertain to the "truths" about the human condition.

In The Outsider, Camus tells of the human tendency to impose rationality ⁱⁿ the search for truth and meaning. In part II of the novella, ~~the~~ during Meursault's trial, the prosecutor attempts to link Meursault's crime to his unconventional and disconnected way of life. He claims that Meursault's heart was so "empty" and that he was an "immoral monster" who did not show the slightest ^{concern} ~~contribution~~ for his actions. This assertion was based on Meursault's perfunctory response toward his mother's death and at ~~her~~ her funeral, as well as his indifferent response ^{about} ~~to~~ marriage when brought up by his ^{it was} ~~prosecutor's~~ prosecutor. As such, the ~~human need to~~ ^{prosecutor's attempts to rationalize Meursault's crime with respect to} rationalize actions, as seen from the



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his every day life is symbolic of humanity's ^{similar} ~~similar~~ need to impose rationality and order — a salient ~~and~~ truth that governs the human condition. It is ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~note~~ ^{note} that despite the prosecutor's rationality, he fails to understand that Mersault's crime was irrational, committed because of the "inextinguishable" heat at the beach. Perhaps it was also Camus' intention to highlight the fact that ^{human} rationality does not always lead to the truth. The Human need for reason to explain phenomena ^{is} ~~will~~ timeless and relevant in today's society and this is what makes Camus' ideas so poignant today.

Camus also points out another complexity ^{of the human} ~~and tendency~~ condition that is ^{humanity's propensity} ~~the search~~ ^{for} to ~~impose~~ see the world as a meaningful place. Taking ~~Although~~ into the context of the novels, Camus' father died when he was a child during World War I and his own near death experience ^{tuberculosis} ~~with death~~ influenced his work and imbued in them a nihilistic quality. Although not a nihilist, Camus espoused of Absurdism ^{a philosophical school of thought} ~~which~~ posits that humanity's search for higher meaning in the universe will ultimately fail, regardless of the fact on whether any higher meaning exists. As such, Camus clearly identified the human tendency to search for meaning and ^{thus characterizes} ~~that is seen through~~ Mersault as an Absurdist hero to enlighten his reader. For example, Mersault speaks of the "benign indifference" of the universe, that all human live to "die outright" and nothing will change for "millions of years" after each individual's death. Furthermore, Camus was "certain" ^{of the death} ~~of the death~~ that was coming to him and that "nothing mattered". It is noteworthy that Mersault had to undergo a transformation as an Absurd hero — much

And again
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like readers who were certain of a higher metaphysical meaning of life.	
Camus' identification of the complex human need for teleological ^{impositions} impositions	
on life is ^a seen characteristic ^{of} for mankind that is clearly universal and	
timeless even in the present.	
On top of pointing out the human need to search for	
meaning, Camus points out the human tendency to ignore the very probable	
possibility that perhaps the universe is devoid of meaning. This is illustrated	
through the setting of the ^{vigil} novel ^{and} during at the beach as as they are	
portrayed as places with "bright lights" and "heat". The bright lights	
are symbolic of the truth ^{that} with attempts to penetrate Merault's unconscious .	
as During the vigil, Merault's uneasy slumber ^{is a metaphor} represents for his	
metaphysical slumber ^{as he fails to} and so is that realize the meaninglessness of	
existence. ^{and his} His uneasiness foreshadows his awakening in Part II of	
the novella. The setting ^{where} at the beach ^{the} sky "rained like hot	
fire" and ^{sunlight} where the the use of simile with rays of sunlight being	
likened to "swords" and "spears" ^{represent} being suggested that the truth which	
attempts to permeate and enter Merault's mind. His constant need to	
seek shelter then represents the the human tendency to ignore the	
truth or even consider the plausibility of a meaningless universe.	



It is clear that Camus' ~~Mersault's~~ ^{claim} about humanity's rejection of any inhibition is still ^{a condition} ~~present~~ seen in mankind today and this makes his works timeless and universal.

Lastly, Camus correctly and astutely points out the fact that humans tend to impose societal conventions of others and that intolerance is an human trait that was ^{integral} ~~part~~ to humanity. This is seen from the jury's conviction of Mersault due to his actions in his disconnected life instead of prosecuting him for the murder committed. Mersault was punished not for his crime but for his non-conformity ⁱⁿ ~~to~~ a society that was intolerant of a mere maverick. The jury was ~~intended~~ ^{intended} to be a microcosm for society at large and their intolerance for a social outcast ^{and} ~~makers~~ for people who are different ^{some societies} parallel ^{society} today too. ~~Mersault was punished~~ The human tendency and propensity toward intolerance and social rejection of a non-conformist in Camus' work is ^{perhaps} ~~what~~ the most radical and relevant quality which makes it timeless and universal.

Fitzgerald also explores some of the complexities and nuances about humanity in his ^{work} ~~work~~. The more salient attribute about humanity would be its inclination for ^{Although} ~~hope~~ hope. This hope is manifested in the American Dream in the 1920s, it is still very much universal as all humans have the capacity to hope, despite the American Dream is simply a tag for the hope to rise in the social classes. Fitzgerald's ^{characterized} ~~characterization~~ of Gatsby as a character who possessed an "extraordinary gift of hope" and the ~~embodiment~~ ^{embodiment} of the ~~a person who~~.





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~~built his wealth~~ American Dream. ~~was to point~~ This was to illustrate the point that humanity's capacity for hope was underneath and universal. Moreover, George Wilson also had his dreams and aspirations—to sell Tom's car to make enough money and move out of the Valley of Ashes. The fulfilment ~~of~~ and realization of this hope is an ~~entirely~~ entirely different matter.

After making his point about the human need to hope, Fitzgerald then moves on to reveal that ~~the~~ humanity's hopes and dreams are often unattainable and unrealistic and this is seen through the failure of the American Dream as ~~Gatsby's failure to~~ ~~the American Dream~~ Gatsby, who was the embodiment of the American Dream failed to win his quest of the "grail" — which was to win the love of Daisy Fay. The use of the word "grail" hints at the lofty and impossible nature of the task and ~~this~~ this is reinforced by the mention that Gatsby's dream was ~~based~~ ^{founded} on a "fairy's wing". Gatsby wanted Daisy to "have never loved Tom" and his insistence to ~~on~~ ^{to} "turning" "turn back time" merely implied the ludicrous and impossible nature of his task. Nick ~~the~~ ~~the~~, who admired Gatsby's ambition ultimately concluded that Gatsby was yearning for an

good job



"orgastic future" that "year by year recedes from us" thus underscoring the unreachable quality of ~~the~~ dreams. On top of Gatsby, ~~My~~ Myrtle's attempts to ^{rise} escape up the social classes ~~and~~ ^{for} ended in her death. Wilson's American Dream ~~was~~ was in a wreck as symbolized by his "wreck of a Ford" that lay in his garage. In essence, all those who hoped and aspired to rise through society ended up dead. This is Fitzgerald's most important point about the futility of the American dream and for humanity's hope to rise up the social classes. It is apparent that the human need for material success and wealth is ~~still~~ universal and ^{present} present in ~~today's~~ culture and ~~that~~ this makes Fitzgerald's examination of ^{humanity's} ~~human's~~ need for is what makes The Great Gatsby ~~the~~ one of the supreme American novels.

^{While} ~~In exp~~ delving into the human condition, Fitzgerald astutely points out ~~the human~~ ^{that exploitation and} moral decay was set to plague mankind. Humanity has a tendency to exploit the ~~defenseless~~ defenseless and to descend into ^{immorality} ~~evil~~. Gatsby ^{achieved} ~~obtained~~ his wealth through bootlegging and crime ~~and~~ was described to be "on his father's business". The verbatim from the bible referred to Dan Cody as Gatsby's "father" as he was a business man who cared only about wealth. Dan Cody is also an amalgamation of Daniel Boone and Bill Cody - both of whom ~~were~~ were ruthless exploiters of the native Americans as pioneers. The ^{historical} ~~anc~~ exploitation of the Native Americans is paralleled to the exploitation of the poor in the Valley of Ashes where "nothing ever grows". The Valley was essentially a place of death and abject poverty ~~as~~ as the men ^{who} were dust covered.





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and money without purpose. The exploitation of the poor and helpless
according to Fitzgerald was, ^{perhaps} inevitable ^{as it was part of} ~~the~~ ~~part of nature~~ the
human condition. Such exploitation is still relevant ^{today} and has been
since the advent of slavery.

Moral Decay was another element integral to humanity, as
most of the characters in the book were victims of morally decay. Daisy,
Myrtle,
Tom and Gatsby all committed adultery. Daisy killed Myrtle and ~~let~~
let Gatsby take ^{the rap} ^{the rap}. Jordan cheated at a golf tournament. Nick
~~was~~ allowed himself to be entertained at Tom's apartment. The
leisurely admission by Meyer Wolfsheimer about fixing the "World Series"
"World Series" only exposed the society's careless attitude towards
crime. Hypocrisy of the upper classes ^{is also} manifested through Tom
mocking Gatsby about being a bootlegger while drunk on the courage
of bootlegged liquor ~~only~~. In essence, Fitzgerald's notion that of
humanity's fallibility and susceptibility to moral decay was relevant
both in the 1920s and ~~any~~ now.

In conclusion, both writers have explored deeply
in their works the intricacies and complexities of humanity.



Many of ~~the~~ the ideas raised are ^{poignant} ~~timely~~ and ^{and} universal, Their contributions ~~contribute~~ to how we perceive the human condition will indeed be remembered ~~be~~ simply because of the ~~timely~~ and universal aspects of ~~human nature~~ ~~raised~~ of their work.

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misplacable
exposition with
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