

Grade – 5

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ Comprehension Score: ____/ 8
INDEX: _____ Grammar Score: ____/27

A. Comprehension - Read this passage and answer the questions below.
Questions about the vocabulary words from this passage will follow in the next index.

Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald's life resembles a fairy tale. During World War I, Fitzgerald enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was stationed in Montgomery, Alabama. There he fell in love with a rich and beautiful girl, Zelda Sayre. Francis was relatively poor. Because of his financial condition, Zelda broke off their engagement. After the end of the war, Francis Scott went to seek his literary fortune in New York City, so he could marry Sayre. His first novel, *This Side of Paradise* (1920), became a best-seller. At the age of 24, Francis Scott and Zelda were married. Neither of them were able to withstand the stresses of success and fame, and they **squandered** their money. They moved to France to economize in 1924 and returned seven years later. Zelda became mentally unstable and had to be **institutionalized**; Fitzgerald himself became an alcoholic and died young as a movie screenwriter.

Fitzgerald has obtained a secure place in American literature primarily because of his novel *The Great Gatsby* (1925). It is the story about the American dream of a self-made man. It is written brilliantly, and is very **economically** structured. The **protagonist** (main character) is Jay Gatsby who discovers the devastating cost of success in terms of personal fulfillment and love. During World War II there was a *Council on Books in Wartime*, which established a non-profit publishing organization. This organization distributed special editions of "the best books of the present and the past to members of our Armed Forces in small, convenient, and economical form." Among the 1200 or so titles, *The Great Gatsby* and the story *The Diamond as Big as the Ritz* were selected. They were reprinted palm-sized, so as to make them convenient for servicemen to carry. With this wide distribution, Fitzgerald's works were introduced to a much more diverse and wider audience than ever before.

Other fine works of Fitzgerald include *Tender Is the Night* (1934), and some stories in the collections *Flappers and Philosophers* (1920), *Tales of the Jazz Age* (1922), and *All the Sad Young Men* (1926).

More than any other writer, Fitzgerald captured the glittering and the desperate life of the 1920's; *This Side of Paradise* was **heralded** as the voice of modern American youth. In his second novel, *The Beautiful and the Damned* (1922), Fitzgerald continued to show how the extravagant people of his time managed to destroy themselves.

Fitzgerald had special qualities in writing. He had a dazzling style that perfectly suited his glamorous themes. A famous section from *The Great Gatsby* summarizes a long passage of time: "There was music from my neighbor's house through the summer nights. In his blue gardens men and girls came and went like moths among the whisperings and the champagne and the stars."

1. This passage is:
a) a fairy tale b) a biography c) folklore d) science fiction
2. What characteristics of Fitzgerald's life resemble those in a fairy tale?

Grade – 5

INDEX:

3. What were the effects of all the success and fame on the life of Fitzgerald and his wife, Zelda?

4. What does the phrase "The protagonist.....and love." mean to you in Paragraph 2?

5. What role did *Council on Books in Wartime* play in the life of Fitzgerald?

6. How can you relate *The Beautiful and the Damned* to Fitzgerald's life?

7. Explain "There was music . . . and the stars." [From Paragraph 5] in your own words.

8. Write the adjectives that are used to describe Fitzgerald's writings.

B. Grammar - Participles: Present or Past - Fill in the chart with the correct form of the verbs.

Base form	Past form	Present Participle	Past Participle
Laugh	1.	2.	3.
Wash	4.	5.	6.
Bring	7.	8.	9.
Find	10.	11.	12.
Lie	13.	14.	15.
Ride	16.	17.	18.
Wake	19.	20.	21.
Spend	22.	23.	24.
Sleep	25.	26.	27.