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***Satire, anti-materialistic and social criticism in
Fitzgerald's the great Gatsby***

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Dedications

I dedicate this work to my parents ,my supervisor, and to my friends, and to all people who support and encourage me especially to the person who is special for me, and stands always beside me in the good and hardest times.

Nesrine

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Abstract

As long as satire ,anti-materialism and social criticism have been a subject of discussion to many scholars and critics ,especially when they are related to The Great Gatsby as Fitzgerald most famous and successful work in the 1920.This task gets a big echoes because it puts off the veil on many facts that cover the American society during the “Roaring Twenties” or the “Jazz Age” ,and at the same time represents the American Dream as a lie and a myth where the society changed up set down in where we find hypocrisy ,corruption ,greediness and materialism dominates the surface .Therefore, this study depicts a feminism and modernism analysis of Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby that deals with all the aspects that we have mentioned before. This process is reflected through the three elements ,satire ,anti-materialism and social criticism that are depicted in the Great Gatsby to carry out the corruption of the American Dream as the main part of the American society in 1920. Throughout the eleventh chapters of the novel, we find that Fitzgerald has successfully used its events to portray the unstable and disarray situation of the Americans during the depression.

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General Introduction

The American people in a given period of time, the Roaring Twenties, are living under many social, political and economic bad conditions that lead them to a moral and cultural destruction in addition to many pressures that make them leave their values, and be slaves of money and materialistic life which promotes many bad intruder traditions in shadow of the organized crime ,and alcohol trade.

Therefore, we try in our work to give an overall vision of the work we are trying to develop starting from a back ground of literature where we classify our work as a fiction one that belongs to the modern literature. Then, we move to define the key words focusing on modernism as a literary movement in which our novel “The Great Gatsby” belongs trying to tackle it from all the angles and stressing the changes of the American society either the moral or the financial one during this period .Also we emphasize more on the scenes in which Fitzgerald shows us the reality of the American Dream as a lie through the depiction of satire ,anti materialism, and social criticism as the suitable images that reflect this truth .

In light of this, our choice to this modern work aims to reveal a well understanding to the crack of the American society .It also presents other realities like immigration ,and the cruel economic situation during the economic crisis of 1920.

Thereby ,the main research question that we base our work on is :How are satire ,anti-materialism ,and social criticism reflected in The Great Gatsby?

In order to get suitable answers to our question, we rely on the following:

- what are the reasons that lead Fitzgerald to write The Great Gatsby?
- what are the aims behind this work?

Here are the hypotheses we depend on:

-The Great Gatsby represents first of all an image about Fitzgerald’s own life and the obstacle he passes during his life .Moreover, he figures out the unclear and gloomy situation of the American society in the Roaring Twenties.

In addition, Fitzgerald uses satire, anti-materialism and social criticism to reflect that the American society is divided between the high class and middle one ,and the American Dream aims to give opportunities to all people whatever their origins are ;however ,through this literary work we discover a counter realities .

Furthermore, in this study we rely on variety of references like book, dissertations and electronic sources. This dissertation will be presented into three chapter , the first one is an introductory chapter which provides a background of literature in which we give image about all what is concerned with it.

The second chapter includes the definition of the key words that shape our topic, in addition to, the definition of modernism and feminism as major movements that this novel belong to.

In the third chapter we deal with the analysis of The Great Gatsby starting by the plot summary ,plot analysis , the presentation of characters , setting and structure, symbols ,themes ,the psychoanalysis interpretation of the novel ,elements of satire , anti-materialism ,and social criticism ,in addition to the critical point of view .

chapter one:

A Background of Literature

1.1. Introduction

The field of Literature is considered as one of the most important fields that reflects the social, political, and the cultural reality of any community. This one is divided into different eras in which we try to emphasize on in this chapter by tackling first of all the definition of literature, its history and, and its different eras where such one has its special characteristics and its specific subjects, such as the era of old English Literature, the Medieval English Literature, Literature of the Renaissance , and literature of the Modernist era .In addition to the major types of literature.

1.2. Defining Literature

Among the studies that shapes a great interest and a challenge to the researchers and takes a big space in the searching field is the definition of literature that is not an easy task of study for the most of them. The definitions differ from one another for example, Jim Meyer in his work “What is Literature? A Definition Based on Prototype” says that the word literature is a word in English literature as all the words, and it is used by all the speakers of all different backgrounds according to their experience and views on literary texts. He mentions also that the definition of this word is based on two approaches; criteria and prototype approach .The first type is the usual approach in defining a word in English by providing a list of criteria which must be meet.

That is to say, when we define any word we should tackle all its details and this is the same case with the word “literature” why do we use this word ?,what does it indicate? What is it? Therefore, when all these criteria exist this is considered as the definition of literature .Consequently, this is what this linguist, Meyer, is trying to convey through relying on Wellek’s definition

“To speak sweepingly one can say, summarizing , that in antiquity, and in the renaissance ,literature or letters were understood to include all writings of quality with any pretence to permanence.”

He comes to a conclusion in the end of this approach that any work contains all the criteria that we have mentioned is called literature.

In the prototype approach is stated that any literary work should be written text, that contains any literary genre in addition to the careful use of language like relying on metaphors, alliteration.(Meyer,1997:1-2)

From another point of view in defining literature in a work arranged by three professors in the university of Nigeria; it is stated that literature is a vast task and each writer defines it according to his life experience .According to them ,the definition of literature is divided into two categories broad sense and narrow one. The first one was according to Gyasi1973 who sees literature as “**anything that is written**”, while the second category is according to Rees 1973 who defines it this way “**writing which expresses and communicates thought ,feelings and attitudes towards life**” .In the broad definition literature contains all the works like history, education and biology which are not qualified as real literature .In the other side ,the narrow sense in defining “**literature** ”, is related to all subjects that study literature.

In order to examine or evaluate which of the two definition can be taken as an effective definition, the same group of researchers from the same university rely on three different definitions to the word literature .The first one is by Moody 1987 who identifies it “**literature springs from our born love of telling story or arranging words in pleasing patterns, of expressing in words some special aspects of our human experience**”.

The second one is by Boulton (1980), he defines literature from a functional perspective as the imaginative work that gives us R’s: recreation, recognition, revelation and redemption”. While the last one was by Rees (1973), after describing what regarded as literature sums up that “**literature is a permanent expression in words of some thoughts or feelings in ideas about life and the world**”. Through all the above definitions they come to a point that all of them shares common things like depending on imagination in writing literature , using thoughts and feelings; moreover, any literary work includes a life experience in showing hidden facts. (Olaof , Dyeniya , and Awolowo ,2008:19)

From another vision, literature is defined as anything that is written, and gives details on something else, thus, brochures, text books, dialogues and tables are all considered as literature because they all provide knowledge about a certain thing, advertisements are also included as a literature because they serve the same aim as the other elements that we have mentioned recently.

According to the same source, literature can be divided and used into two different ways; informative and imaginative literature. The first kind is defined as anything that gives real facts, explanations, or history of something. For instance all the books that tackled any figures' life are classified as informative literature books because they offer knowledge. In another angle, all the works in which the author expresses their ideas, feelings and attitudes are considered as imaginative literature because the author wants to communicate feelings more than facts. (Risdianto, 2014:04).

1.3. History of Literature

Literature passes by a lot of changes starting from the old English literature and ending with modern one.

1.3.1. Old English Literature

The old English literature is at first oral and transferred from generation to another in this way. This literature is in forms of poetry, lyrics and epics in which *Bewolf* is the only surviving one of this era, then, it is written. Most of the old English literature writings and writers are not well known. In the fifth century A.D the Romans missionaries have contributed to make this language written when they have taught their alphabets to the Germanic tribes. (The Development of English Literature, summary: 1) [http://www.ucm.es/data/cont/docs/119-2014-02-19-1.%20The%20Development%20Literature%20\(summary\).pdf](http://www.ucm.es/data/cont/docs/119-2014-02-19-1.%20The%20Development%20Literature%20(summary).pdf)

The old English is the result of many invasions to Britain and this language is concerned to the Anglo-Saxons invaders. According to this writer, the Anglo-Saxon literature is oral poetry, songs and stories. This race describes the victories of German warriors, harsh environment they lived in addition to other subjects that are in form of

poetry like speaking about brevity of human life ,dangers, struggle between human and inhuman powers.

There is also a kind of religious poems that is under the umbrella of old English literature,this one dealt with subjects from Bible and Church traditions that are represented by Cuedmon(658,680)and Cynewulf (750) .

Moreover, riddles were another Anglo –Saxons oral literature which are a kind of folklore that expose a delights in sounds , rhythm and imagination.

On contrast with the old English poetry that originates in the Anglo-Saxons period, the English prose is purely English creation and development .This genre of literature presents mostly religious themes because literacy is restricted only on the church servants, such subjects conveyed historical information, and they have purpose of teaching and preaching at the same time without forgetting that most of the prose writings are in Latin. The famous Anglo –Saxons prose figures who are considered as the founders of old English one King Alfred (871,901) and Bede (673,735).Much of prose at that time is a chronological narration of events year by year. (Militelu,2012:5-7)

Before being written, literature is in oral form and it is transferred from one generation to another verbally .All the old songs ,legends folks stories or folk tales and plays are narrated orally because people do not know how to write ,moreover, some epics lyrics which are sometimes sung and accompanied with musical instruments.(Risdianto ,2014:5)

1.3.2. Medieval English Literature

The literature of medieval period (1066-1485) starts with the conquest of England by the Normans ,who put an end to the Anglo-Saxons era .This people who have occupied a large parts of Northern France had a great effect on many sides among them literature .This period is characterized by the variety of languages spoken by different social classes ,for instance the French language is classified as the first language in England, it is restricted only on the upper class, Latin is the language of

church while English is the language of servants and serfs. Till this period literature is remained in its oral form.

In 1300, the English language is flourished and enriched through adopting and importing new French words to this language which is the one of the lower class, then, it becomes spoken by all the classes.

In another research to agonize the history of literature notably the Medieval Period ,it is asserted that this period is divided into two periods ;the first one starts in (c1066-1450ce) in which it is marked by the invasion of Norman French to England, in this early period literature is still in oral form .In this era there were many French works that are interested in romances such as works by Chretien de Troyes, French fables such as the works of Mary De France and Jeun De Meun.

The second period is called “High Medieval Period”, it starts in (c1200-1485ce) and Geoffry Chaucer is the dominant of writings of this period and he is called “the Father of English Literature”. Chaucer is a cosmopolitan writer; at first he writes in French courtly style “The Romaunt of the Rose” is an example of this style ,then , he is influenced by Italian writers such as Boccaccio and Dante ,thus he produces Troilus and Cryseyde (c1380) ,in addition, to many writings in English like the Canterbury Tales .

In other side ,the Literary forms of the Medieval period have a big mixture such as “Ballad” which is a popular form in this era ,it is a kind of story told in song composed of four stanzas in which the second and the forth line rhymed. This song narrates folklore stories and legends .Another kind of literature in the Medieval Age is the romance ,the latter can be in prose or verse ;it has nothing to do with ordinary people because it narrates stories about the king and his knights and women who play a big rule in this period .Love songs are the main forms of romance that narrate stories about the adventures of chivalrous knights in both France and Norman England ;the example of this form is the Celtic Legends of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table that is written in Latin ,then, in English prose and printed in 1485by Thomas Malory .

The Fourteenth century is marked by a new form of literature which is drama as a main literary genre that focuses on religious subjects and this is pervasive in all the mystery plays that deal with stories from the Bible and the miracle plays that depict the lives of Saints.

Another kind of plays are appeared in the fourteenth century which are called “the morality plays” that portray the life style of good Christians .All these plays are firstly written in Latin because they tackle religious themes related to the church in which Latin is its main language ,then, they are written in English and performed out of the church.(Mititelu,2010:13-15).

1.3.3. Renaissance and Literature

The Era of Renaissance during the 16th and 17thcenturies is the period when the creative desires of the English people take a place and lead to the greatest production of literature poets and playwrights, Readers and listeners, all charmed in the dynamism and attractiveness of the English language, London is the heart of literary activity, by the beginning of the 1600’s the spirit of literature spreads in all of the European cities.

Many printing presses and publishers emerge and many genre and forms are found an audience such as news stories, accounts of travels, religious tracts, popular romances, literary criticism, political pamphlets and the earliest novels.

At that time, there is a focus of poetic creativity, many members compete with one another to see who can create the most highly elegant and perfect poems. Even the queen herself writes lyrics and the admiring audience for these lyrics is the elite artistic and the social circle that surround her.

Elizabethan poetry proofs a major move away from the mood and topics of medieval poetry. The poetry of this period requests to the emotions, and combines both the classical reverence for truth with the Renaissance appreciation for beauty. Popular are lyrics that express loving desire for a beautiful, interesting, and elusive woman. During the Elizabethan age many poems include creative metaphors, complex and beautiful allegories, and analogies, formerly an Italian verse form.

The poetic field has been developed by many famous geniuses such as Thomas Wyatt and the Earl of Surrey.

For drama, it is the greatest literary achievement of the English Renaissance, it is also called the Elizabethan drama this genre emerges from three sources, the first source is the Latin and Greek dramas that are revived during the Renaissance and studied at university centres such as Oxford and Cambridge, the second one is the medieval miracle and morality plays performed in churches, inns, and private homes in cities and rural marketplaces, the third source is the popular hobby which is created by travelling minstrels, acrobats, and actors.

For the Theatre, there are important and new works emerge since the majority of the noble families have their private theatres, they employ the actors and writers as servants, till 1570 and 1600 when The first public theatres are built out of the town of London, on the river where the city fathers can not forbid them - the latter does not delight in the idea of the lower class leaving work to see the dramas, which are performed during the daytime. The first play is *Tamburlaine the Great*, by **Christopher Marlowe** (1564-1593).

Another kind of drama appears at that time which is the Elizabethan love comedy by Sir **John Lily** (1554-1606) who is the inventor of this type, another famous one who creates a new type also is **Ben Jonson** (1572-1637) the creator of the witty comedy of manners, satirising social conventions who is also Shakespeare's friend, he acts with him in his plays, and builds on his work.

It seems clearly that the literature of the renaissance Era begins to reflect certain social issues. Also evident is a general tone of rebirth, a growing sense of the development and the enlightenment that starts in this era. (Mititelu, 2010:18-34)

1.3.4. Literature in the Modernist Era

The modernist Era is the period when the rises of all kinds of philosophical ideas, Karl Marx's scientific socialism, Darwin's theory of Evolution, Schopenhauer and Nietzsche's pessimism take a place. Realistic novels of the 20th century are characterized by the continuance of the Victorian spirit, literature as field which has a great influence on the society is considered also as mirror that reflects the reality of this time most works discuss the issues of this era such as John Galsworthy, H. G. Wells, and Arnold Bennett.

This Era also knows many others modernist writers such as W. H. Auden, Seamus Heaney W. B. Yeats, Virginia Woolf, Dylan Thomas, and Wilfred Owen , In Britain, and Robert Frost and Flannery O'Connor In America. It knows also famous writers of The Jazz Age appear during 1914-1929 such as Hemingway, Stein, and Fitzgerald. It marks also the rise of black writers such as Baldwin and Ellison.

During 1930s, the novelists begins to focus on the urgent social troubles .By the middle of 1950s and the early of 1960s,it emerges “the Angry Young Men”, whiwc is strong opposition against the social and political values in their society that leads to the rise out of scepticism and disillusion of capitalism, that the illogical philosophy and the theory of psycho-analysis as its theoretical milestone.

The theory of the Freudian and Jungian psycho-analysis play an important role it is traced by very famous writers such as D. H. Lawrence in his works Sons and Lovers, Women in Love, Lady Chatterley’s Lover, Rainbow in addition to many writers

It can be said that modernism Era is considered as a revolution against the conventional ideas and forms of the previous form of literature, it deals with the rise of the human being independent and consciousness about what happens, and it focuses on the discussion of the issues of humanity. (Sanders,1994:505-512)

1.4. Major Types of Literature

Literature is a vast world that contains many types that differ from one another.

1.4.1. Defining Poetry

Poetry is the first type of literature ,it is identified as “ **any kind of verbal or written language that is structured rhythmically and is meant to tell a story, or express any kind of emotion, idea, or state of being**” .In another word ,poetry is a literary work that expresses emotions or feelings in which it is arranged in story that is told in rhythmical way .(Berni and Jantas ,2006:03).

What is also said in defining poetry ,that is a written art form in which human language is used for its aesthetic qualities in addition to ,or instead of its notional and semantic content .That means ,in poetry we rely more on the use of images and

metaphors as the aesthetic side ,without neglecting the meaning that this poetry contains and used for .(brain storm –services .com/w c u-2005/pdf/defining–poetry.pdf)

Among the ancient writers who give their touches in defining poetry is the American poet T.S. Eliot. The latter sees that poetry goes beyond the poet emotion and personality because when he expresses his current situation ,he does not express it in a simple way but in world full of images and imagination .

“Poetry is not a turning loose of emotion, but an escape from emotion; it is not the expression of personality, but an escape from personality. But, of course, only those who have personality and emotions know what it means to want to escape from these things.”(www.poets graves .co.uk poets –on –poetry.htm)

Dictionary is always initiative in defining poetry ,within it poetry is

A literary work in which special intensity is given to the expression of feelings and ideas by the use of distinctive style and rhythm; poems collectively or as a genre of literature.(http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/fr/definition/anglais_americaain/poetry)

1.4.2. Types of Poetry

There are many kinds of poetry that can be distinguished, according to Stephanie Lethbridge and Jarmilla Mildorf there are four kinds of poetry; lyric poetry, narrative poetry , descriptive poetry and didactic one .

In their description to the first one ,they state that lyric poetry is comparatively short ,non narrative poem in where the speaker expresses his thoughts and feelings. This kind of has some of the elements of songs in which the Greek writers sees that lyric is a song that is accompanied with lyre and contains many subcategories.

Elegy is one of this categories that is used as a formal lament for the death of a particular person .Ode is another one which is a long lyric poem with a serious subject written in an elevated style.

In addition, the sonnet is a love poem which expresses the suffering and hopes of the lover .This kind of poem is derived from Italy ,then , it moves to England in the Renaissance .Sonnet is not restricted on love, but it shifts later on to deal with subjects

related to religious and war. Moreover, this type is characterized by the use of single stanza that consists of fourteen lines and a complicated rhyme pattern.

Furthermore, dramatic monologue a speaker, who is explicitly someone other than the author, makes a speech to a silent listener in a specific situation and at a critical moment. Without intending to do so, the speaker reveals aspects of his temperament and character. Without forgetting to indicate to occasional poem as another subcategory of lyric poem which is written only in time of occasions like weeding .

In the other side, narrative poetry gives a verbal representation, in verse of sequence of linked events .This kind of poem has a lot of subjects to tell among them love ones .As the previous kind of poetry ,this one has also subcategories like epic and ballad .The first one characterizes by the extension in length and topic .Moreover, it depends on the use of an elevated style of language and imaginary characters in its events .

Ballad is originally used from the sixteenth century, it is a kind of song that tells a story in an oral form .This subcategory that belongs to the narrative poetry composes of four-line stanza alternating tetrameter and trimeter.

In the other hand, descriptive poetry as a third type can be depicted in both of lyric and narrative poetry.

While for the didactic type of poetry, it is used for learning and instructive purposes. (Lethbridge and Mildorf, 2008:144-146)

1.4.3. Defining Prose

Prose is another form of literature that shapes a point of debate to many scholars and writers .Therefore, as an attempt to define it, there has been a work that is developed by the National Open University of Nigeria in the School of Arts and Social Sciences that is submitted by a team of professors, in this work prose is identified as the most typical form of language which is derived from the Latin word “prosa” which means “straight-forward”.

That is to say, anything you say or write in prose is presented in a straight – forward manner .Therefore, prose is a collection of complete sentences which shapes paragraphs in narrative form

Moreover, all the words in prose are arranged in correct sentences and chronological order in order to convey a meaning full understanding , and any work goes beyond this description does not consider prose.(Iwuchukwu and Yusufu,2010:18)

Moreover, in another work that aims to the same purpose ,prose is identified as any written word which is near to an ordinary ,colloquial and oral speech .To extend more in defining prose ,in the same work which is submitted by Zahra Iranmanesh , in which she relies on another writer in doing so , Malekol Shoarae Bahar (1958) identifies prose as,

“prose is a word or statement in which there is nothing expect simple explanation and fulfilling the aim ,free of internal emotions, and feelings ,for the speaker as the guidelines of the great ones to subordinates ,explaining an accident by someone to the other, or reporting an event that all of them should be simple”

(Iranmanesh,2012: 125)

This means that prose is not the same as poetry that relies on expressing feelings.

In a book created by M.H. Abrams that combines a lot of literary terms, prose is identified as **“an inclusive term for all discourse ,spoken or written ,which is not patterned into the lines either of metric verse or of free verse”**.(Abrams,1957:246)

Dictionary also contributes in enriching our work by one of its definitions to prose. According to the Oxford dictionary, prose as a noun is any written or spoken language in its ordinary form without metrical structure.(www.Oxford dictionaries.com definition /english /prose).

1.4.4. Origins of Prose

The English prose is originated in the fifteenth century .During the beginning of this period, prose knows a decline and retrogression but through practices in this type, it is developed and increased in which many styles like ornate and plain are developed .In this period, English prose is influenced by Latin and most of the works were written in this language .In addition most of the prose writings translate French works .

Prose in this century knows many writers who work on this type like Reginald Peacock who is characterized by rugged and obscure prose. He is the early writer who prefers English Words than Latin ones in which his two famous works know a victory through the use of English, **The Repressor of over-much Blaming of the Clergy (c.1445)** and **The Book of Faith**.

Hugh Latimer is another prose writer in the fifteenth century, whose work consists of two volumes of sermons published in 1549. These works are remarkable for their plain and dogmatic exposition, their graphical power and their homely appeal. He is the first among the writers of plain style.

(www.hollanduniversity.org/Arabic/lib/uploads/engoo2.pdf.pdf)

Furthermore, in another work, it is stated that prose is developed in the ninth century, and it may contain the characteristics of poetry of that time. Prose is influenced by Latin, and consists of factual, historical and religious writings. The significant figures of that time who translated many religious, historical and philosophical works from Latin, is King Alfred the Great who firstly translates works included *The Pastor's Book*, containing ideals for a pastor.

He also translates Baede's Church History and other historical works. In addition, Alfred collects medical information, annals, chronicles, and information for law books. His works lack originality, and are more instructive and educational than artistic and beautiful. (Hart, 1892 :4).

David Daiches, in his work also deals with the origins of prose stating that it goes back to the early Germans, and it is developed later than poetry. Prose at that time follows the political and cultural needs; moreover, the contact between Germans and old mature Greco-Roman civilization contributes in the delay of its development.

The same writer states that the English prose begins in the Anglo-Saxons period specifically in King Alfred's reign where Latin is the language of most prose writing at that time. (Daiches, 1961:23)

1.4.5. Defining Drama

Drama is the third type of literature, it is identified as an imitation of life. Different from the other literary genre or types, drama is composed to be performed, and presented on stage in front of audience. Throughout this performance, there is a

message to be conveyed through the actors who play an important role as a main wheel that moves the events .Drama is considered as a mirror that reflects life as it is. (Iwuchukwu, Yesufu, and Ofulue , 2008:03)

All the sources do not differ in defining drama because all agree that it is the real representative of life, for instance in attempt to define, it is said that drama is a mode of fictional representation through **dialogue** and performance. It is one of the literary genres, which is an imitation of some action. Drama is also a type of a play written for theaters, televisions, radios and films.

In another words ,a drama is a composition in verse or prose presenting a story in pantomime or dialogue ,containing conflicts of characters , particularly the ones who perform in front of audience on the stage .(<http://literarydevices.net/drama/>)

Moreover, drama is a form of composition, it depends on actors to perform dialogues and actions in theatre (Abrams ,1957:69)

1.5. Conclusion:

This chapter includes the defining of literature, and its history that passes with different eras in addition to its types in order to give full image on the changes that this task knows, and this at the same time helps us to know the right classification of the novel we are trying to analyze.

chapter Two:

**Satire, Anti-Materialistic
and Social Criticism
in literature**

2.1. Introduction

Literature is huge world of knowledge when we confront many words and items that are existed since many decades ago. Therefore and throughout the whole work we are trying to develop “satire, anti-materialistic and social criticism”. In this chapter we put our intention to define the key words starting by the word “satire” by tackling its origins as a term ,its techniques ,then, the purposes behind its use .After that we move to do the same thing with the second key word “anti –materialism” relying of course on some writers and scholars definitions and views .

The third key word “social criticism” may seek the same purpose with the first one that is why we have tried to define it in details in order to avoid this ambiguity. Furthermore, we endeavor to offer some details about Fitzgerald’s life diving deeper in his falls and rises starting with his birth, his career and ending by his death .As a case study, we based our research on the famous novel that is written by the “irresponsible writer” as he is called “the Great Gatsby” in which we try to deal with all its representations that are as a reflecting mirror of the American society in the Roaring Twenties.

As the last step in this chapter, we stress the definitions of both modernism and feminism as a literary movements that this novel belongs to .In the first one, we try to expose a detailed definitions of the word in addition to its waves, while for the second one we tackle its definition and its emergence in both visual arts and literature.

2.2. Defining Satire

From the very ancient decades people are struggling in many problems within their societies wither they are political, economical, religious or even social. Thus, individuals cannot do anything to change this situations only by using their writings as the only way to make people aware of what is happening in the one side, and to put off the veil on their corrupted societies in the other one .Satire is one of the most important weapons that has been used to obtain at least some transitions from bad to good.

Although this word uses to serve the same purpose, but its definition differ from one source to another .For instance, Jonathan Swift mentions in his quotation about satire that **“Satire is a sort of glass, wherein beholders do generally discover everybody's face but their own”**.(<http://quotes.yourdictionary.com/author/jonathan-swift/109949#satire>).That is to say ,he means by this quote that satire is the mirror that reflects people faults .

Another way in defining the same word, that satire is an attack or a criticism of any stupidity or vice in form of scathing humor, or a critique of what the author sees as a dangerous religious ,political ,moral or social standers .This shows that the writer uses criticism as tool to castigate all the bad phenomenon that appear in the same society.

Through many other researches about defining the word satire ,it is showed that it is a technique employed by writers to expose and criticize foolishness and corruption of an individual or a society by using humor ,irony, exaggeration or ridicule in hope of humanity amelioration .All the fictional characters used in satire are stood for real people to expose and condemn their corruption ([http://www.academia.edu/541187/humor_irony and satire in literature](http://www.academia.edu/541187/humor_irony_and_satire_in_literature)).

Moreover ,the British dictionary in its turn also contributes in defining satire through its different derivations as a noun or verb .This dictionary states that satire /'saetaie/ is the use of irony ,sarcasm ,ridicule ,or the like in exposing or denouncing or deriding vice .Not only this ,but it also defines satire as a literary composition , in verse or prose in which human follies and vices are held up in scorn of derision or ridicule to create such an effect.

2.2.1. History and Origins of the Word Satire

The question about the history of the origins of the word satire remains opened because the answers differ from one to another, and the word has ancient root and scholars differ in agonizing its history. For example ,Ruben Quintero in his dissertation, “Understanding Satire” mentions many definitions related to the term satire stating many writers such as ,the classist G. L .Hendrichson who says **“Few of us I imagine are conscious that in using the senses ‘satire ‘,satiric ‘,’satirist’, ’satirize’,**

we are dealing with words unrelated etymologically."This means according to this person that each word alone of the previous ones that are mentioned in the quotation each one apart has a long history. (Quintero,2006 :49).

Another work that also tackles the history of the word satire from another angle is the one of Katerina. Eva Matsa. She notes that, Aristophes' plays joins the two concepts describing the linguistic roots of the word satire .According to Aristophanes' comedies, comedy sometimes used satire, but the later is the main part of comedy. (Matsa, Msc,2010:09)

For many writers satire is not a new literary genre, it has been existed for many centuries ago and until today .Let's go back with the time centuries ago when satire is a part of Greek cultural, social ,and political life ,and is widely used in their theatres. According to many researchers, the word satire is derived from the Greek word "**Satyrs dramas or Satyrs**". The latter means in Greek methodology "**a creature with upper half of man and bottom half of goat or horse**".

All the comic plays at that time tackles all life issues .Among the famous dramatist at that time Aristophanes whose play the Clouds which satirizes Socrats as an embodiment of atheism and sophistry, while the Wasp satirizes the Athenian court system.

On the other hand and according to the Roman dictionary, the word satire "**Lanx Saturata**" means a "**Mixed dish or a dish filled with various kinds of fruits.**"Poetry is the right place where the Romans functions satire. Additionally, Romans pretend that satire is their invention through Quintallian famous line "**saturata quidem tota nostra est.**"

Other scholars and linguists state that Satire can be described as the literary art of diminishing or derogating a subject by making it ridiculous and evoking toward it attitudes of amusement, contempt, scorn, or indignation. It differs from the comic in that comedy evokes laughter mainly as an end in itself, while satire derides; that is, it uses laughter as a weapon, and against a butt that exists outside the work itself.(M.H. Abrams,1957:275)

In the modern writings satire is the use of different elements such as irony, sarcasm, humor and ridicule to criticize or mock the foolish behavior of others and satire can be in form of poem novel or an essay. Although the use of satire is often entertaining, it is also often used by writers to put off the mask on the corrupted societies and individuals as an attempt to draw attention to the faults of individuals and societies either to encourage changes or to force awareness. According to many studies and researches, two types of satire are distinguished; formal and indirect .In the first type, the writer uses a persona or a voice who speaks directly to the reader or to one of the characters in the work.

Meanwhile, there are another two types that are derived from the same type from the ancient Romans, juvenal and horatian. These are two significant types of satire which can be distinguished and used as a major ones in today writings.

Juvenal satire is vitriolic at the situation and the people the writer finds corrupted. It is in the same time as an attack to public officials and governmental organizations. While horatian , satire is gentler than the first one, using laughers to try to change the situation. And this kind is used to mock the social norms. The second type of satire is named after the Greek cynic parodist and polemicist Menippus (third century BC). Menippean satire is classified as one form of indirect satire, because the characters do not speak directly and they are themselves ridiculed and make fun.This kind of satire criticizes the mental attitudes rather than social norms or specific individuals.

2.2.2. Satirical Techniques

Satire has many techniques that are used in different ways with different purposes, and all of them serve different kinds of fun and sense of pleasure .Among the most used techniques in satire are humor, irony, exaggeration, incongruity, reversal.

Humor is derived from the humoral medicine of the ancient Greek .This technique is substance or a main element in fiction; it is concerned with the emotional side. It is also the tendency of a particular or cognitive experience to provoke laughter

and provide amusement. In other word, all people are able to experience humor by being amused. Meanwhile, this technique may include a combination of ridiculousness and wit, and it cannot be only in a written form, but it can be in music or in visual arts.

Through the level of understanding humor is addressed to, it may be divided into three levels for analysis. The first level is the universal humor that can be understood by everybody. Moreover, humor at second level is not visual as in the first level, it is concerned to use jokes on political, sexual or religious issues .While in the third level humor needs a high language quality and its stylistic devices.

Moreover, irony is a mean of humor; it is widely used in philosophical literary works. Thus, the overall meaning of it is the distinction between what is said and what is understood or what is expected and what is actually happened .And what makes it successful is how the writer used irony to make the audience stop, think and emphasize on a central idea he wants to convey and this is how both of Eric Partridge and Hery Watson Fowler **“Irony consists in stating the contrary of what is meant and** Henry Watson Fowler do

“Any definition of irony though hundreds may be given and very few of them would be accepted must include this, that the surface meaning and the underlying meaning of what is said are not the same”.

From this point there are three main types of irony that are distinguished. Verbal irony means the contrast between what is said and what is meant. Then, dramatic irony means the contrast between what the character thinks and what the reader realizes and discovers .Situational irony is the most common in literature; it is the contrast between what is expected and what is happened.

Another technique that may be used by the writers in fiction is exaggeration, the latter is to enlarge, increase, or represent something beyond normal bounds so that it becomes ridiculous and its faults can be seen .Understatement is the contrast of exaggeration .It is useful in cases where the damage or evil is already so great. Furthermore, Incongruity is another technique that aims to present things that are out of place or absurd in relation to surroundings .Reversal is to present the opposite of the

normal order (e.g., the order of events, hierarchical order). Ambiguity is also useful because the intention can always be denied, but it also serves to make the satiric comparison more pointed, by making difficult any distinction between the target and the object to which it is compared.

2.2.3. The Purpose Behind Using Satire

The use of satire is not random by those who uses it in their writings .The significant purpose of this literary genre is not to give moral lessons or didactic ones, but for a corrective aims by ridiculing or attacking conditions that need reformation. The best satire does not really mean to harm or to damage although it functions many provocative elements through laughter and wit ,but to give a push to people who are under bad conditions to recognize ,rebel and benefit from persons or societies that are attacked .

Satire may seem as a destructive ,but it is in deep constructive through the awareness it brings .Sometimes the satirist has a great role as a corrector of societies because with his effort ,he tries to point on the wrong things within the situation on the one hand and through his harsh critics that make individuals aware and vigilant about their situation's reality on the other one .According to Jonathan Swift the aim of satirist is not to seek total perfection or complete correction as he says “**to mend the world as far as they are able**” .But at least to stop or decrease the spread of evil. Moreover the real result of satire could be much touchable through the responds of the audience to the attack.

2.3. Defining Anti-Materialism:

Among the major issues that have a big echoes in the first decade of the twentieth century is the question of existence that leads many philosophers to tackle it from many angles according to each one's view .However , the most important thing in all this is “does material things exist?”If we say “yes, material things existed”. This will confirm the materialism doctrine .According to John Locke (1632/1704) there is a distinction between primary and secondary qualities .He argues that material things exist and they are mind independent things.

Moreover, he notes that our ideas of the latter colors, sounds, flavors cannot be properly regarded as resembling anything in material object. Among other arguments, he observes that one and the same body can produce contrary ideas of secondary qualities. For instance, the same basin of water, may feel warm to one hand, while cold to another, but surely the same water cannot resemble both of these simple ideas at once.

The final conclusion Locke gets after this experience in the case of body that neither of them can do so. And this justifies that our ideas of primary qualities the mechanical properties that Descartes has called “modes of extension” such as size, shape reveal the way that bodies really are in themselves. (Locke, 1975:8).

However, there is a counter opinion and rejection to this doctrine by the adopters of immaterialism. The latter is first originated by George Berkeley who is one of the most immaterialist that defends idealism and states “**reality consists exclusively on minds and their ideas**”.

Meanwhile, he castigates and attacks materialism. According to him “no material things existed”, thus he attacks Lockean and Cartesian dualism and at the same time rejects the idea that material things are mind independent things is something whose existence is not dependent on thinking or perceiving things and thus will exist with or not any thinking things exist. So, for Berkeley there are no such mind independent things.

To prove this fact, Berkeley, relies on many evidences presented in his book “Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge”. Firstly, he claims that houses, mountains, rivers and all sensible objects had an existence natural or real, distinct from their being perceived by the understanding in addition to the ideas and sensations. Therefore, Berkeley comes to a result that ordinary objects are ideas, and from this point he distinguishes two sort of perception, mediate because we perceive ordinary objects, while immediate perception because we perceive only ideas, so things are mind free items.

Bishop of Cloyne also argues and proves that first qualities of matter must from their mutability be rejected as well as the secondary qualities ;moreover, he notes that if matter has neither first or secondary qualities it is nothing .

In another point Berkeley mentions that materialism leads to skepticism because people think that real things remain without the mind and that their knowledge is only overlapped to that real things .Also ,he notes again that materialism leads to atheism because a material world can be expected to run without the assistance of God because our sensations will push us to believe in material things .After a long debates, the immaterialist philosopher, Berkeley, indicates that the word “existence” has no one meaning .For a mind to “exist” will mean to perceive or to act ; for a body it will mean to be perceived .Whereupon, Berkeley, comes against Lockean distinction between sensible qualities and our sensual ideas of these qualities. (Berkeley,1968:9-15).

2.4. Defining Social Criticism

In every society there are many writers who serve as witnesses to many problems like corruption and injustice, and this pushes them to tackle these issues in their writings as a shape of critics to these serious phenomena as an attempt to seek reforms or enforce revolution.

In the light of this, social criticism is the reflecting mirror of these exceeding, then, writers differ in defining it .For some ,the term social criticism is used to describe political ,social ,economic ,cultural or religious issues .

Throughout the history of literature writers use their writings as a weapon to satirize political ideas and to overshadow the darkness people are living .For instance, Jonathan Swift and Charles Dickens uses their novels to expose the darker side of England industrial development.

For the writers of the twentieth century , they use their works to depict the effects of war ,poverty ,the results of oppression ,and the fight for civil rights .One of the most important issues that are also tackled by the writers of the same century are

the political conflicts and cultural clashes .The main goal of the writers of this criticism is to entertain readers although their reasons may vary ,but they feel responsible to make them aware of some facts .Sometimes the writings may be based on direct experiences or presenting thoughts on a problem that the writer lives in a certain period of time. Usually the stories that tackle social criticism differ from one another in the way how it will be functioned.

We find in some novels that the politician or social issues dominate the whole story as its main theme ,while in other social criticism is less direct .The most appropriate works where this kind of criticism is touchable mainly in fiction in which writers present the truth about situations without injecting their personal beliefs to allow to the readers to form their opinions accompanied of course with irony and casts .This thing is functioned by William Trevor , when he discusses the growing hostility between Protestants and Catholics in Northern Irland ,but he does not directly pass judgment on the conflict.

Thus, this shows us that he portrayed a certain truth about the unstable situation in that part of world without including his personal beliefs to give the chance to the readers to give their opinions .Most writers use their characters as ordinary individuals trying to depict the behavior and destinies of real people and at the same time to highlight larger social problems . (Trevor,1970:75)

2.5. A Background of Francis Scott Fitzgerald:

In the 24, 1896 the world witnesses the birth of the foremost writer and novelist of the twentieth century, Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald. The latter is a son of two different nationalities parents ; his father is American ,while his mother is Irish,and he rises in a middle class family .During his youth Fitzgerald lives in different places St. Paul Minnesota ,New York, Buffalo ,Syracuse ,then ,he moves back to Buffalo. Fitzgerald starts his journey of writing in 1911 when he moves to Newman School, a catholic prep school in Hackensack. In 1913 he enters Princeton University .Then ,in 1917 he joins the army, but this does not prevent him in keeping writing .In 1918, Charles Scribner's sons does not accept Fitzgerald's work the

Romantic Egotist with a request for submission upon revision. Fitzgerald's loneliness life ends in 1918 when he fell in love with Zelda Sayre, a youngest daughter of an Alabama Supreme Court Judge. After finishing his military service in 1919, he turns back to New York and worked in an advertising agency hoping to earn money to marry Zelda, however; their engagement is broken by her.

In the same year he returns to St. Paul where he writes the Romantic Egotist and publishes it, then, gives it the name *The Side of Paradise* which knows a great success. One week after Scott and Zelda gets married in New York and lives licentious life traveling between United States and Europe. In 1921 they give birth to only daughter child, Scottie.

Upon his misbehavior Fitzgerald gets a bad reputation of "irresponsible writer" after alcohol consumption he exposes to, which prevents him to be taken seriously by the literary community. Another obstacle Fitzgerald has during his marriage is the financial difficulties in which he doubles his efforts in writing, however, his next novel does not get the same success as *The Side of Paradise*. In 1930 his wife exposes to mental breakdowns till her death in 1948. The cause of the financial crisis is because of the heavy debts resulted from Zelda's hospitalization. Scott spends his last few days with Sheila Graham who he meets and falls in love, who in her return helps him to retrieve his career as a writer.

2.5.1. Francis Scott Fitzgerald's Major Works:

In the beginning of his writing career Scott requires a great and wide spread fame through his first novel, *The Romantic Egotist*, which is called later on *The Side of Paradise*. His second book "*The Beautiful and the Damned*" (1922) is his second novel that is published in *Metropolitan Magazine*. Then, in 1925 Fitzgerald writes his most known novel that contributes to give him a sweeping fame, and success around the world, "*The Great Gatsby*". Ten years after the publication of this novel, the American writer writes his fourth novel "*Tender is the Night*"; however, it does not get much success as the previous one.

At the time of his death in 1940 the novelist is still working on his last fifth novel “The Last Tycoon”, however, it is not finished. These are not the only novels in Fitzgerald's literary bag because he is also known for writing short stories composing over 150 that are published in national publications such as , the Smart Set Saturday Evening Post and Metropolitan Magazine ,and these are the three short stories that are published in his lifetime ;Flappers and Philosophers (1920),Tales of the Jazz Age (1922)and All the Sad Young Men (1926). (<https://www.cliffsnotes.com/literature/g/the-great-gatsby/f-scott-fitzgerald-biography>)

2.6. Defining Modernism

Amidst the political ,social and economical tensions that lead to the World War I ,people start to experience a new taste of changes and transactions which are under a new era that is called Modernism .The latter is not used to indicate a certain field ,but it is a way of referring to the efforts of many individuals in arts who try to move away from the traditional modes .Throughout the long studies, it is argued that modernism is a period, style ,genre or a combination of all these .

For the stem “modern” is derived from the Latin word “modo” which means “current”. Generally, this stem has been used to refer to the avant-garde since the Second World War, it is used to refer to the word “now” then, it shifts to the meaning of “just now”.

While for the whole word ,modernism ,it refers to the Christian present in opposition to the Roman past .In addition ,it is a label that described the radical, progressive and the revolutionary side of the twentieth century .Modernism as a new tendency or movement has many meanings according to the one it is used for .For instance in religion the word modernism is applied to the Roman Catholic movement of the early twentieth century .

Moreover ,the modernist of that era try to make some adjustments on the letter of the church doctrine according to the modern knowledge .In literature ,modernism means the distinction between the classical aspect of literature from today's ones that are cosmopolitan and have a sense of urban culture(Brucke ,1960:33) .

Throughout the noun modernism, the first thing that comes to our minds that this word means something new, therefore, according to many writers modernism is a response to the scientific, political and economic developments that in return effects music, visual arts, philosophy and of course literature.

Others define modernism as an artistic movement that begins in the twentieth century. This movement characterizes with the struggles that people has upon adopting new ideas and discoveries and throwing the old traditions that are not important any more (file://H:/modernism_in_american literature.Html).

In another attempt to identify modernism in a work that is prepared to solve the dilemma between modernism and Marxism, it is stated that “**modernism is the principal trend in bourgeois art in the era of decadence**”. In art, politics and philosophy, modernism is marked as “**the militant negation of tradition**” also as “**petit bourgeois morality yielded to decadent a moralism**”.

Within the project of making a distinction between the two notions; modernism and Marxism, the first one is identified as “the belief in the internal truths of class civilization are replaced by antithetical illusion of relativism all styles are considered intrinsically equal and of equal worth.” Throughout all the definitions we come to a point that modernism is a new path of changes that targets to put an end to all what is old and traditional paving the way to new principles and thoughts.

2.6.1. Modernism in Visual Art

1863 is marked as the first beginning of the birth of modern art throughout Edward Manet exhibition of his shocking painting “Le Dejeuner sur L’erbbe” in the Salon des Refuses in Paris which is the most scandalous painting of that era which comes against bourgeois morality and academic standards. The term visual arts is a combination not only painting but sculpture and architecture.

The development and the flourish of modern arts are in Paris as its main center. Meanwhile, Britain and the United Stated also initiates in this matter throughout the

organized exhibitions such as the Grafton Galleries in 1910 by Roger Fry and the other one that includes cubist work and post-impressionists.

This movement is affected by the rapid changes the world witnesses in addition to the industrial revolution that contributes in the development of transportation and traveling

Moreover , people start to experience new urban lifestyle and this leads to more demand for urban architecture ,applied arts and design .what also characterizes this period is the appearance of new style of painting which is known “impressionism” that becomes the first major school of modernist art .This style is a result of two different developments that have an effect on fine arts .The first one, is by the invention collapsible tin paint tube by the American painter John Rand in 1841.

While the second one is through the advances in photography. All the social changes are the main points of artists inspiration throughout the different subjects they tackle in their paintings which are based on people, places or ideas that interest them, but latter they move to trigger new subjects on urban landscape. (Brucke,1960:69-70)

2.6.2. Modernism in Literature

Modernism as a movement firstly emerges in Europe ,and the period between 1890and 1930 is a period of its flourish because it knows a wide spread of new schools, thought and new theories ,in addition to other literary genre ([www.visual arts.cork.com/modern-art.htm](http://www.visualarts.cork.com/modern-art.htm)).

On contrast with the old traditional literary genres in the Victorian era like realism and naturalism in which writers arrange their writings on , modernism is a new step that takes by writers to shed light on the social changes and the effects of technology and modernity in all the fields.(Brucke,1960:61)

Poetry is one of the literary genre that is emerged in France and America .The British poetry is in fact effected by French symbolism and American hybrid –Anglo imagism .In its first appearance in Britain ,it is stated that the British poetry is in its lowest points ,and the poets there are not well known until 1930.One of the most

known modernist poets who is interested in depicting daily life and landscape in his poem is Thomas Hardy (1840.1928).

Theatre is the first center of modernism drama and the absurd plays take a great place in this literary genre when life is portrayed as a purposeless and meaningless as a results of war depression (Theory and Practice in Language studies,2011:253). Expressionism is another style in modernist drama because it aims to convey an inner reality .Meanwhile ,there are many examples of plays that discuss this issue like the Swedish dramatist August Strindberg (1849.1912).Another type of dramatic plays that are used as a social criticism is by the father of modern drama , Henrik Ibsen. While for the American side, the playwrights are focusing on race and sexuality.

In addition, another kind of drama appears in the 1930 by T.S. Eliot which is a religious one in which he attacks the modern behavior. (Brucke,1960: 63-64)

2.7. Feminism and its History

The term feminism is hard to be identified because it is a very old one, and there are long debates over when and where the term feminism is firstly used. Thus each writer defines it the way he sees it .For instance, Karen Offen in her book A Comparative Historical Approach, in an attempt to identify and originate the word feminism after many researches, she says that the word “feminism” has a French origins in the early 1890, but before that date this word refers to Charles Fourier in 1830.The word feminism is always a synonym to “women’s emancipation”.

Another derivation from the word feminism is “feminist”. The latter is also used in France in 1882by Hubertine Auclert , La Citoyenne ,to describe herself and her associates. Then this word is shifted to be used in the French press. In the 1895, the term feminism is transferred to Great Britain, then , it knows wide use and publication in Belgian French, Spanish, Italian, German, Greek and Russian press .Later on and exactly in 1910the word “feminism” crosses the Atlantic to reach the United States. (Offen ,1988: 123)

Moreover, Jane Freedman in her book “Concepts in the Social Sciences Feminism” states that the term feminism is firstly used in 1871 in a French medical text to describe a cessation in development of a sexual organs and characteristics in male patients ,who are perceived as thus suffering from “feminization” of their bodies. Then , Alexander Dumas son uses this term, “feminism”, in a pamphlet published in 1872,entitled “L’homme-Femme” on the subject of adultery to describe the women who are behaving in a masculine way .

Always with the same author who relies on another source to identify the term “feminism” as Fraisse (1995.316) mentions that the feminism in political terms is used to describe a virilization of women .Again Jane notes that the word feminism is not an adjective used by women to describe themselves or their behavior, but it extends to describe all what is related to women’s rights and women’s concerns about their political and social conditions. Jane comes to a conclusion that the word “feminism” emerges a long time ago even before women’s starts to question their social and political position .And the same thing with the word “feminist” which is not very recently used to describe women’s rights groups.(Jane Freedman,2001: pp.5)

In addition, the British Oxford dictionary also tackles the history of the word “feminism”, it states that both of the terms “feminist” and “feminism” firstly appear in France and Netherlands in 1872, in Great Britain in the 1890 and the United States in 1910.This source notes that the exact date of the appearance of the word “feminist” in Great Britain is in 1894, while for “feminism” is in 1895. According to this dictionary, this word firstly introduced to the English language by the UK Daily New. (<http://www.saylor.org/courses/polsc101/3.2.3>)

2.7.1.Feminism Theory

Feminism theory is a sociological theory which analyzes the status of women and men in society in purpose to bring a good conditions of life to them; meanwhile, it stresses the subject of gender .This theory is concerned to give a voice to women and highlight their important role in society .As a theory, feminism, emerges when women

start to experience the differences between them and men, and started to demand for amelioration in their political and social positions.

According to Karen Offen who identifies feminism relying on the dictionary definition that “feminism” is a theory or movement that is concerned with describing the state or position of women through their political ,legal ,or economic rights equal to those granted by men. (Offen, 1988:123)

In another definition to this theory, it is mentioned that it is the extension of feminism into theoretical or philosophical discourse. It aims to understand the nature of gender inequality. It examines women's social roles, experience, interests, chores, and feminist politics in a variety of fields, such as anthropology and sociology, communication, psychoanalysis,, literature, education, and philosophy. Feminist theory focuses also on analyzing gender inequality and among the important issues of this theory are discrimination, objectification, oppression and patriarchy (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feminist_theory)

Waves of Feminism

Through the history of feminism three waves are distinguished ,each one differs from the other in its duration and thoughts .The first wave feminism extends nearly from 1848 to the mid 1920. This wave begins with Mary Wollstone Craft’s Vindication of the Rights of Women 1792. This wave is characterized by many feminist who are liberal and naturalistic and stresses socio_ political issues like the suffrage of women ,they are also trying to reform and attack the discriminatory laws and gender based exclusionary social norms.

Moreover, the feminist of this period are concerned on emphasizing on the concept that women are human beings in their own rights and not a possession of men as a step to guarantee their rights .In addition, the main claims that describes that period are the creation of social and child labor laws ,legalizing birth control, and above all Equal Rights Amendment is drafted .

On contrast with the first wave of feminism, the second one emerges out of anti-war and Civil Rights Movement. During this period, women know many changes in their lives because they start to get aware of the outside life after being restricted

only in serving family .Women enter the labor field and call for equality in labor market, child care equal wages, employment and education opportunities, without forgetting to mention that race and class have a secondary concerns because the focus and the priority are given to women comfort and well being .As Dominelli and Mc Cloud mention in this context,

“There are two sorts of people in the world, the superior and inferior, or in terms of power relations, the dominant and the subordinate .We are all equal irrespective of our gender. Social relations that obliterate this fact must therefore be transformed and recreated in ways that reflect equality in terms of gender” .(Dominilli and McCloud,1989:01)

All what is mentioned in this quote proves the fact that men and women are equal and they should share the same rights.

Liberal feminism is one of the various types that is included under the umbrella of the second wave feminism .This one claims that gender differences are not based on biology ,consequently, there are no differences between men and women ,thus they should not be treated in different way under the law. Moreover, the liberal feminism promotes for equal opportunities by fighting for women liberalization through the right of expression and choice .In addition, the women’s strive is to achieve and obtain high ranking position in government, business and industry and this will not be accessible only by education that will help women to occupy administrative positions.

Meanwhile, it also contributes to highlight the discrimination of modern society against women and at the same time succeeds to break down many obstacles that facilitate women entry to job fields that are restricted only on men like engineering and police work .Furthermore, it helps to equalize wage scales and

legalize the abortion right. Liberal feminism in the end succeeds to prove the idea that even if women are different from men intrinsically, but they are not inferior.

Marxist feminism is the second type of feminism, in this one Marxist principle is that if someone owns the means of production, he is a member of Capitalism.

Also it is stated that in Marxist feminism women are not allowed to own property in their names and in case if they get a benefits from any business or a wage they will turn of course to their husbands .Moreover, it notes that women are essential part of capitalism because they occupy dual works; unpaid one as a housewife through serving their husband and take care of children, and contribute to give birth to children who shape next generation of workers.

In other case, women are source of support to men once again outside home. For instance, when men fall in hard times or when their husbands 'wages fall below the level needed to full his family needs , the women are obliged to work either in home as dressmaker to earn extra money or to work outside home for the same purpose .

Social feminists 'views are not so different from the Marxist one because on the one hand both of them did not see men as 'enemy' of women. In addition ,they recognizes that the women's oppression and exploitation start from home because they work on two directions ;unpaid one ,at home ,where they are always depending on their husbands ,and outside home to help their husbands in difficult times .

In the mid of 1980 ,feminism knows a great raising of awareness unlike the previous years when women's rights are pillaged .In this era the protest is big because people are opened on each other's culture and races and this contributes in spreading consciousness and in the emergence of new term within the same context of the interrelations 'politics of hybridity' that again expresses the marriage between different identities resulting new generation from different ethnicities or races which shapes the third wave of feminism .(Judith Lorber,1998:9-10)

The feminists of the third wave have more privileges like education. Furthermore, the issues that are held by this wave are more universal like immigration, multiculturalism, globalization as well as environmental matters and global rights that shaped the center in addition to other issues like gender and sexuality and what may make it as similar as the second wave is the focus on heterosexuality and homosexuality as a norm as Queer theory argues(<http://www.sociology.org.uk>.2004)

2.7. Conclusion

The second chapter is as gate in which we open the doors to many definitions and other elements related to the topic we are trying to work on .Through this chapter we discover new things that may help us and facilitate our work in the coming chapter. Furthermore, We have tried as much as possible to give a background on each element apart to take knowledge about things we do not know before trying to clarify the ambiguity between them .

Chapter Three

**Satire, antiMaterialistic,
andSocial Criticism
inThe Great Gasby**

3.1. Introduction

Among the broadly known masterpieces that are written in the twentieth century is the one written by Scott Fitzgerald. In 1925 *The Great Gatsby* is published as the most successful novel that reflects first of all Fitzgerald's life and in the same time the American nation and the radical changes they experience during a period that is called the Jazz Age.

This chapter provides an idea about the plot summary in which we try to summarize the novel by focusing on its main events, plot analysis to well understanding to all the explicit and implicit meanings that Fitzgerald wants to convey.

Through this modernist work we are also trying to deal with full analysis to this novel focusing on many elements like the plot summary and analysis of *The Great Gatsby*, Characters both principle and secondary ones, Setting and Structure in which this story takes place and the structure that illustrates the language that Fitzgerald uses. Moreover, we try as much as we can to analyze the symbols to extract the hidden meaning behind each one. Themes are another element that helps us to know the reality of the American nation which is in fact not honored, then, we move to another element which is related with the psychological side in which we apply Freud theory to analyze the characters' personalities, then, we sum up the chapter by famous critics on Fitzgerald's novel.

3.2. Plot Summary

The events of the story take place in Summer of 1922, they are narrated by Nick Carraway, a young man who moves from Minnesota, to New York to work as a bond salesman. The latter settles in West Egg, a district of Long Island, a home of new wealthy society where he becomes a neighbor of the new wealthy man, Jay Gatsby, who is the talk of the city by his lavish parties.

Nick is educated at Yale and World War veteran, in his new home he makes a continuous visits to East Egg where his cousin's home Daisy Fay Buchanan and her husband, Tom, who is his friend of college. In once of Nick's visits to them he meets

Jordan Baker, a beautiful young woman who belongs to the same social class of the couples with whom he begins a romantic relationship. That girl tells him that Tom has a lover, Myrtle Wilson, who lives in the valley of ashes, a gray industrial place between West Egg and New York City. This woman is the wife of George Wilson, a car's garage owner who has business affairs with Tom. No long after, Myrtle and both of Nick and Tom depart to New York City to discuss business affairs, when Myrtle starts to show her hatred to Daisy by saying things about Daisy; meanwhile, Tom responds by breaking her nose.

As the summer progresses, Nick eventually accepts an invitation to one of Gatsby's luxurious parties. He encounters again Jordan Baker at the party, and they meet Gatsby personally, Gatsby pretends that he belongs to a rich family, he has been educated in the Oxford and served in the war where he receives a number of decoration. Gatsby asks to have a conversation with Jordan alone, and, through her, Nick later knows more about his mysterious neighbor. Gatsby tells Jordan that he knows Daisy in Louisville in 1917 and is in love with her. He spends many nights staring at the green light at the end of her dock, across the bay from his mansion. Gatsby's extravagant lifestyle and wild parties are only an attempt to regain his past love with his dreams girl Daisy who refuses to marry him because he is poor.

After that Gatsby asks Nick to arrange an appointment between him and Daisy, but is afraid that Daisy will refuse to see him if she knows that he still loves her. Nick invites Daisy to have tea at his house, without telling her that Gatsby will also be there and after many attempts the separable couple reunites again.

After a short time, Tom is surprised when he knows about his wife's relationship with Gatsby. At a lunch at the Buchanan's house, Gatsby stares at Daisy with such undisguised passion that Tom realizes Gatsby is in love with her and this leads him to have terrible thoughts, that his wife can be unfaithful to him by recovering her past love with this new rich man. Later on, Tom forces his guests to move to New York City, where he confronts Gatsby in a suite at the Plaza Hotel. In that moment Tom announces to his wife that Gatsby is a criminal, and he collects his fortune from

illegal activities, then, she prefers to keep loyal to her husband. As a challenge to Gatsby that Daisy is faithful to Tom, the latter allows her to accompany Gatsby.

Driving back to East Egg, both of them make an accident which is caused by Daisy and Myrtle falls died. When Nick, Jordan, and Tom are driving back, they discover that Gatsby's car makes an accident and Myrtle is killed. Later on, Gatsby tells Nick that Daisy is driving and strokes Myrtle, then, in order to save her he declares his responsibility on that. Meanwhile, Tom hurries to tell Myrtle's husband, George, that Gatsby is the driver of the car, thus, he decides to revenge thinking that Gatsby is his wife's secret lover, so he shouts him, then, he also ends his life.

Nick, Gatsby's father and a few persons attend Gatsby's funeral, then, Nick decides to turn back to the Midwest and ends his relation with Jordan. When he realizes that all those who surround Gatsby are just hypocrites.

3.3. Plot Analysis

The great Gatsby as a Scott Fitzgerald's master piece is an extract to a mixture of romanticism and tragedy. This novel contains eleventh chapters which represent a collection of events that describes a complicated and shady life of a farmer's son, Jay Gatz, who moves from rags to richness for the desire to get acceptance into the sophisticated world of the women of his dreams who does not even attend his funeral.

This modern story as it is classified starts by speaking about the advices that Nick's father gives him which they cling in his mind forever, **“whenever you feel like criticizing anyone”, he told me, “just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you have had.”**(Fitzgerald, 2008:7).

In the light of this, Nick's father wants his son not to judge people randomly and superficially because sometimes they commit wrong things because they have not the chance, and they does not choose this by their wills but they are obliged so.

Furthermore, this story is an autobiography since it is narrated by Nick's tongue about a character individual, Gatsby, who in his return reflects the whole

American nations in a given period of time when new values intrude and sneak to the American society in which decadence and prosperity sweep all the good values and the Americans are busy to collect money whatever the means are as the case of the protagonist.

The period of 1920s or as it is called the Roaring Twenties is known as a time of great optimism on one side because people experience new things like technology ,and the developed transportation, **“the motor road hastily joins the railroad and runs beside it for a quarter of mile” (p.29) “Rolls Royce”(p.55)**, but if we dive deeper ,we perceive that this era describes the bleak, hypocrisy and corruption of the American society in time where the importance is given to the materialistic life like the Saturday’s parties, the Oxford man as he pretends, uses to arrange as it is described in the third chapter in addition to the luxurious life style .

However, that is only a mask that veils the wrong commitments like the spread of the organized crime as when Jay is suspected that he murderer **“I think he killed a man.” (p.55)** .Moreover, Gatsby’s wealth comes in illegal way through selling alcohol **“He’s a bootlegger” (p.67)**.

The American Dream is a combination of many aspects in which throughout our analysis to the *Great Gatsby*, we try to shed the light on them. The first aspect, the pursuit of happiness, is well functioned through the life of Buchanan’s couple who are married and have a child, and are revealing the best example of the happy and united family. However, this is only a facet that hides their sins because both of them commit adultery, for instance Tom with Myrtle and Daisy with Gatsby and this is seen in this quotation,

“Under the dripping bare lilac-trees a large open car was coming up the drive. It stopped. Daisy’s face, tipped sideways beneath a three cornered lavender hat, looked out at me with a bright ecstatic smile.” “Are you in love with me”, “she said low in my ear,” or why did I have to come alone? ” (p. 92)

In another scene to describe the same aspect via a conversation between Myrtle and Mrs .Mckee in which she is speaking about her husband ,George Wilson.

"I married him because I thought he was a gentleman...The only crazy I was when I married him. I knew right away I made a mistake. He borrowed somebody's best suit to get married in"
(p.41)

Both of the previous quotations show that all of the characters that we have mentioned are not happy neither with their husbands, nor with their lovers. This means that Daisy cannot marry Gatsby because he is poor preferring Tom because he is wealthy, while Myrtle betrays George because of the same thing and runs to Tom because he can offer her all what her husband can not do. This proves that money is not always a source of happiness because sometimes it turns to be a source of suffer and pain, and this is seen in the story through its end because Gatsby cannot reunite again with Daisy and he is murdered, and the same thing happens with Myrtle who cannot also be with Tom and dies in the end.

The way to wealth as a second main aspect in the American dream is pervasive in the *Great Gatsby* via Gatsby's life who can in a short period of time to move from poverty to richness and changes his name from James Gatz to Jay Gatsby the most significant man whom no one knows where or how he gets his fortune.

"He was a son of God - a phrase which, if it means anything, means just that - and he must be about His Father's business, the service of a vast, vulgar, and meretricious beauty. So he invented just the sort of Jay Gatsby that a seventeen-year-old boy would be likely to invent, and to this conception he was faithful to the end."
(p.105)

According to Suleman Bouti in his work that agonizes the different aspects of the American Dream within the *Great Gatsby*, he assures many of realities that indicate that the American dream is only a myth which brings only destruction and sorrow to those who run for money leaving behind them their real identities and adopt a new ones as what happens with the main character of the novel, who in a duration of five years, becomes Jay Gatsby "James Gatz that is really, or at least legally his name.

“He has changed it at the age of seventeen and at the specific moment that witnesses the beginning of his career –when he sees Dan Cody’s yacht drop anchor over the most insidious flat on Lake Superior. It is James Gatz who has been loafing along the beach that afternoon in a torn green jersey and a pair of canvas pants ,but it was already Jay Gatsby who borrowed arowboat” (p.104-105)(Bouti:5-6) file://Downloads/american-dream-in-f-scott-fitzgeralds-the-great-gatsby%20(10).pdf

Furthermore, through the over use of terms like **“Valley of Ashes”**, **“smoke”**, **“grey cars”** and **“bleak dust” (p.29)**, this indicates the outcomes of the Industrial Revolution in a period where the economic and the financial position are decreased, consequently, the American community is divided into two through the unusual use of the West Egg verses East Egg and the Valley of Ashes.

In another context, for women position in society, they start to experience new privileges, for instance they enjoy total liberty .This can be perceived through the whole novel where women attend Gatsby’s parties. In addition , they rely on baby seater to take care of the children as the case of Daisy’s daughter, Pammy , whom uses to be raised and taken care by her nurse **“Daisy sat back upon the couch .The nurse took a step forward and held out her hand .”**

“come , Pammy”

“ good –bye ,sweetheart”(p.123)

3.4. Characters

3.4.1.Principle Characters

Nick Carraway is the novel narrator and at the same time its central character. He is the cousin of Daisy and her husband’s friend .Nick is a self made man who instead of depending on his family wealth ,he decides to rely on himself by moving to the west to work as a bond salesman .He is Gatsby’s neighbor and later on befriends with him. Nick is the main rope that reunites both of Daisy and Gatsby .In addition, Nick makes a romantic relation with Jordan Baker ; however,

it does not survive because he feels that she does not suit him because **“she was engaged to another man”**(p.184). Nick reflects the good image of best friend when he is the only one who stands with Gatsby when he is shouted **“I found myself on Gatsby’s side ,and alone.”** ,then **prepared his funeral “ Mr. Gatsby’s dead”**(p.173) .Nick’s mission has finished in the West Egg ,thus, he decides to turn back home to the Midwest . **“I decided to back home”** (p.184).

Jay Gatsby is the title character and protagonist of the novel that the events of the story are centered on him .He uses to be called James Gatz a son of a poor farmer from Dekota who gets bored of the life of poverty and decides to change it by any price even if with illegal ways to be a famous wealthy young man who lives in West Egg the place of the new rich people where **“even Daisy could not know him”** (p.81).

He is well known for the lavish parties he is arranging each Saturday night as a bait to attract his golden girl’s attention, and in the same time this symbolizes Gatsby as an icon of loyalty because although he is separated with Daisy he tries all what he can to gain her again.

Gatsby’s life is mysterious because no one can know where he and his fortune come from. In order to cover his illegal activities he pretends that he is an oxford man **“he is an Oxford man”**(p.78), Gatsby is the ideal example of the materialistic and corrupted American society because his purpose behind arranging parties is to show to all people that he is rich .His love to Daisy makes him a slave of money in one side, while in the other one makes him pay a heavy price in the end through his assassination by George Wilson, upon a woman who does not deserve all these sacrifices he offers for her.

Gatsby is the hero of the novel at the beginning of it ; however , in the end he embodies the corruption , the moral and social decay of the American society ,in other word when Gatsby is alive all people attend his parties ,however ,when he dies no one attends his funeral.

Daisy Fay Buchanan is the most central female character in the novel,she is Nick’s cousin and Tom Buchanan wife, she is a young beautiful and attractive lady.

“she was just eighteen, two years older than me, and by far the most popular of all the young girls in Louisville. She dressed in white, and had a little white roadster” (p.81).

Daisy’s name means the pure flower; however, in reality she is an example of the materialistic and greedy women who is ready to leave the man she loves preferring to marry another one just because he is rich. This is depicted in two different positions in the novel; the first one when she jilts James Gatz because of his poverty, while the second one when she has gone with her husband leaving Gatsby taking the responsibility on something he does not commit at all

“In June she married Tom Buchanan of Chicago ,with more pomp and circumstance than Louisville ever knew before .He came down with a hundred people in four private cars , and hired a whole floor of the Muhlbach Hotel ,and the day before the wedding he gave her a string of pearls valued at three hundred and fifty thousand dollars”(p.82).

Through the events ,Daisy is still in love with Gatsby and she uses to go to his home from time to time and in many occasions she declares her love to him **“you know I love you”** she murmured. This scene indicates that, the golden girl, is a hypocrite and uninnocent to her husband because she tends to meet Gatsby secretly without her husband knowledge when she is invited by Gatsby to tea and came alone. **She said low in my ear “or why did I have come alone” (p.92).** Daisy in her motherhood side is not good because she uses to leave her daughter Pammy with the nurse in most of the time. **“the child ,relinquished by the nurse”(p.122)** .This reflects as we have mentioned before the new lifestyle the women taste in the modernism period.

3.4.2.Secondary characters

Tom Buchanan first of all is an athlete **“And Mr Thomas Buchanan, the athlete” (p.121)** who enjoys a good physical appearance **“thick body” (p122)**. Tom is graduated from Yale and he is Nick’s friend .He is a business man who lives in the East Egg. That rich man is Daisy’s husband has a relationship with Myrtle whom in fact uses him just as a mean to offer her what her husband cannot.

Jordan Baker is a secondary character, she is a sport woman “**Miss Baker’s a great sportswoman**” (p78) a golf player and well known champion “**she was dressed to play golf**” (p.184), “**she was a golf champion, and everyone knew her name**”(p.64). She encounters with Nick in the Buchanan’s house, and starts a relation with him which it does not continue. Although Jordan is belonging to the higher class, but her behavior sometimes indicates her lowness because she is always trying to intrude people’s lives for instance through telling Nick that Tom has another girl “**The rumour is**” **whispered Jordan, “that that’s Tom’s girl on the telephone”**. She does the same thing with Gatsby although the rumors she tells are true.

Myrtle Wilson is a lady that belongs to the lower class. Myrtle’s name meaning is a homely savage plant. On contrast with Daisy, Myrtle is a ugly women who does not have beauty or allure features “**faintly stout**” (p.31). As the other female character of the *Great Gatsby*, Myrtle, is a materialistic women that betrays her husband with Tom Buchanan the rich man who can offer her things, she cannot get from her husband George Wilson. Additionally, Daisy shapes as nightmare to Myrtle because she reaches a point when she is uttering Daisy’s name several times “**Daisy !Daisy !Daisy!**” **shouted Mrs Wilson. I’ll say it whenever I want to!Daisy !Dai_**”(p.43). And this indicates that she envies and hates her because the latter enjoys things that she cannot get. This pity woman cannot gain anything in the end neither staying with her husband, nor enjoying Tom’s wealth because she dies in a car accident.

George Wilson is a blond, spiritless man, and faintly handsome, he is garage owner who is cheated by his wife. However, he sacrifices in the end when he shouts Gatsby and commits suicide upon a woman who does not deserve

3.5. Setting

There is no sequence of events in the *Great Gatsby* because the writer is just describing memories by using flash back. Therefore, The events of the story do not take one place because nearly all the characters are moving from one place to another according to the necessity of the events because they engaged in business. For instance in the beginning of the novel Nick leaves his mother land in the Midwest to the West

Egg. Then, Fitzgerald moves to describes other events that take place in the East Egg. Moreover, he mentions Louisville as another setting where both of Gatsby and Daisy firstly meet. In another part of the European continent, Nick mentions Daisy's visits to many districts in France like Cannes, and Deauville, then, her coming back to Chicago. The second narrator uses a collection of places in all the whole novel ending them with the first place the novel takes in , Midwest, when Nick decides to go back home, and this is an important technique in any modernism work.

3.6. Structure

In narrating the events of *The Great Gatsby*, Scott uses a suitable Language to precede the harmony and the sequence of the events of the story, which are in fact the mirror that reflects the novelist own life. Fitzgerald varies the characteristics of style by using a mixture of techniques that represent the themes of the novel.

As a story within a story, the writer uses "point of view" to explore all characters thoughts and their complementary role in events of the story and as a main feature in analyzing the language use, he uses three components to determine this. The first is "limited first-person witness narrative". This point indicates in the novel the role of Nick as an observer and a witness of the events through the over use of the pronoun "I".

Furthermore, as the main witness of the events ,Nick is as a translator of the dreams and social ambition of the people surrounding him .

In another position in *The Great Gatsby*, Nick as the main engine of the events is totally detached from the actions, for instance when he forces to meet Myrtle in the second chapter .Again Nick is absent in some scenes ;however , this does not prevent him to convince the readers of the continuity of the events because Jordan Baker is the source who conveys him with all the information. In this step Fitzgerald through his narrator is careful to tell the readers things he cannot witness.

However ,the use of limited I narration is a good technique that Fitzgerald uses in order to describe the event's immediacy and the credibility .Relying on Nick as a

limited first person point of view, the writer asserts that the events of the story are real by using Nick as the main narrator of the story.

Additionally, he shifts to use “third-person point of view” in places when the narrator cannot express events he does not live as a first narrator, as a result, he relies on different points of view as we mention through the use of the pronoun “he”,

“For over a year he has been beating his way along the South Shore of Lake Superior as a clam-digger and a salmon-fisher or in any other capacity that brought him food and bed. His brown, hardening body lived naturally through the half-fierce, half-lazy work of the bracing days” (p.105).

This quotation explains the beginnings of the hard life of Gatsby, nearly the use of “he” is to describe the different steps of Gatsby’s life **“he was in the American army during the war” (p.50).**

Furthermore, Fitzgerald uses the “second-person point of view” that resembles with “you” to describe for example the first coming of Nick to the West Egg **“How do you get to West Egg Village” (p.10)** encounter of Gatsby and Nick for the first time, and to make the reader feel as if he nearly lives the moments.

Another characteristic of style in which the novelist employs another technique, is the use of direct and indirect speech in all the chapters of the novel since we have several points of view. The use of the first one indicates that the events are happening at the same time when the characters are speaking, for instance **“I got to write down a list so I won’t forget all the things I got to do” (p.43).** This indicates Myrtle’s low educational level that reflects her identity.

In another scene in which the direct speech used is to indicate that women are as accessories to men and their inferiority vis-à-vis them. In the story this is revealed when Tom addresses Myrtle as a bitch **“It is a bitch” (p.34).**

Meanwhile, the use of the indirect speech is to portray conventional reports or gossips and presenting events he does not witness

“My Finn informed me that Gatsby had dismissed every servant in his house a week ago and replaced them with half a dozen others, who never went into West Egg Village to be bribed by the tradesmen, but order moderate supplies over the telephone. The grocery boy reported that the kitchen looked like a pigsty, and the general opinion in the village was that the new people weren’t servants at all”. (p. 119) (Liu,2010:416-422)

In another attempt to examine the stylistic features in the same work of Fitzgerald , there is a work that is developed by the Chinese university of Science and Technology in which they present the lexical and grammatical characterization in the *Great Gatsby* .

The first category includes the use of adjectives that is necessary to express the different images of romantic scenes as a part of the story themes .As it is seen in all the novel ,Fitzgerald uses another technique within this category which is the use of contradictory adjectives that indicate the gloomy situation and the pshychies of the characters like **“her face was sad and lovely with bright things in it”(p.15)**

Besides, for the grammatical category ,Fitzgerald adopts in his work a combination of features that contributes to describe the corruption of the American Dream and the moral decadence by tackling the narrator’s feelings and emotional changes .Thereby , he uses long narrative sentences that are in complex form like,

“The groups change more swiftly, swell with new arrivals, dissolve and form in the same breath; already there are wanderers, confident girls who weave here and there among the stouter and more stable, become for a sharp, joyous moment the center of a group, and then, excited with triumph, glide on through the sea-change of faces and voices and color under the constantly changing light”. (p. 46)

Without forgetting the use of appositional and propositional phrases that cover the whole work. (Liu,2010:662-666).

3.7. Symbols

3.7.1. The American Dream

The whole of the *Great Gatsby*'s novel depicts the collapse of dreams in the American society during the jazz ages when people are dreaming of happiness, money and good conditions of life. However, this dream provides purpose to their life and give them something to work for, but the failure of their dream is inescapable because the harsh reality of life at that time and the decline of the American economy.

The central protagonist Gatsby is a good example that is used by Fitzgerald to illustrate the failure of the idealistic dream of the Americans, since this ideals are usually far to be real. Gatsby who becomes a successful man in his life, all his wealth is gathered from illegal and dishonest way, the novel comments on this failure of Americans and moral dream by expressing all the immoral characters who have the money and the other ones who are poor dreamers.

3.7.2. Gatsby is a man who has a dream, he wants to become a person with title and wealth, he wants also to be with his love Daisy, but she prefers to be with another man. All what he dreams of becomes a nightmare; he represents the result of a dream of all American people that falls apart.

3.7.3. Daisy is one of the female characters in the novel, her name means a fragile flower that reflects her, because she is a fragile women although she is a beautiful but she cannot make up herself to face the harsh reality of life.

3.7.4. Tom represents the powerful man who all men want to be like him, because he is wealthy, strong and a person with higher position, but in the same time he symbolizes the evil of wealth and the decline of morality and the abuse of the higher class in the American society at that time.

3.7.5. Nick is the narrator of the story, he has his own thoughts and opinions about the illegal money of Gatsby but he does not express it because he is Gatsby's friend; therefore, he stands to the side, he is a symbol of goodness and real friendship who reunites Gatsby to Daisy.

3.7.6. Myrtle is a female character who acts an important role in the development of the events, she is also Tom's mistress, she is full of life and she is a spontaneous person who lives life freely and without boundaries.

3.7.7. Gray light in this modernist work, the gray color represents the misery and the hopeless life, it is the place of the lack of spirit and morality. In the novel this place is called the Valley of Ashes where everything is covered in gray dust even the people. Moreover, the Valley of Ashes between west egg and New York City includes a long isolated land created by the dumping of industrial ashes, it expresses the moral and the social decline in the American society at that time that consequences from the wealthy people. This place also, symbolizes the troubles of the poor class such as George Wilson who is obliged to live among the dirty ashes.

3.7.8. The Green light represents dreams and hopes of Gatsby for good future that links it with Daisy; he goes toward it although his difficulties, this hope leads him to his goal when he becomes one of the most nobles men in his society. Gatsby's goal for Daisy is dealing with the American dream. Green also symbolizes the ideal position and prosperity.

3.7.9. The white color when Gatsby wants to meet Daisy again after five years he wears a white clothes in order to show his love to her in a pure way ; therefore, this color symbolizes a powerful meaning of purity and goodness

3.7.10. Red color is one of the most powerful colors that express death and blood, through the great Gatsby novel it represent the bloody death of myrtle the poor women and Tom's mistress.

3.7.11. Yellow color is also one of the most meaningful color in the novel that is represented by Gatsby's car and yellow leaves, this color symbolizes things that go bad at that time like corruption , dishonesty and the decline of American society during the jazz ages.

3.8. Themes

3.8.1. The American Dream

Fitzgerald's novel is based on the issue of American dream, especially a dream of gathering wealth by any way. This seems clearly through the protagonist Gatsby who represents the decline of morality in the Jazz Ages and the corruption of the American society, because he becomes a wealthy man as he wants to be, but by illegal sources and corrupted way like many Americans at that time as it is mentioned in Nick's words "**he ...bought up a lot of side-street drug stores here and in Chicago and sold grain alcohol over the counter**" (p.139). The American dream is considered as something ideal that all people work for, but this sweet dream is doomed to failure as its ideals conflict with the harsh and the difficult condition of life.

3.8.2.Love

There is no doubt that this modernist work includes a romantic side that illustrates between two central characters, Daisy and Gatsby as it is mentioned in Gatsby's speech when he asks her "**are you in love with me,**" she said low in my ear , "**or why did I have to come alone?**"(p.92). Fitzgerald wants to express this relationship in a very complex way, because thinking for love in the jazz era is considered as the difficult choice ,for the majority of the American people money and looking for higher position are the main principles of their lives , from this perspective it may be said that love of Gatsby and Daisy reflect the conflict between morality and immorality, feelings and wealth, fidelity and materiality, since Gatsby struggles to be a wealthy man he gathers his fortune by corrupted ways just to be with Daisy ,but unfortunately although she loves him ,but her greediness and looking to live in a higher position make her leaves her love and marry Tom because at that time Gatsby is just a poor man who has a dream to be in one day a man with title.

3.8.3.Women

Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* introduces the female character as a person who lives in illusion and unable to express herself powerfully, all what she can think about it is to live with a man with higher position even without love, through Daisy and Myrtle the feeble image of the women in the Jazz Ages is depicted, there is a sense

that they are expected to do what the men say. This declined position seems clearly in Tom words when he calls Myrtle “**it is a bitch**” (P.34).

3.8.4.Social classes

The social class is considered as the main theme that is discussed in *The Great Gatsby* novel, it depicts through the division of the American society during the economic crisis. At that time people are divided into three classes, the wealthy class, the new rich, and the lower class. Tom belongs to the first class whom people live in the East Egg, Gatsby who belongs to the new rich class of the West Egg, Myrtle and her husband George Wilson who belong to the lower class. This kind of people live in the Valley of Ashes. It can be said that the big division between the characters reflect the division in the American society itself during the Jazz Ages.

3.9.3Elements of Satire, Anti-Materialistic and Social Criticism

The great *Gatsby* as Fitzgerald famous work is as a mean that unveils the truth of the American society as a corrupted one and this is obvious through all the images and expressions he uses to prove this reality.

The title of the novel is one example that itself is used as satire to a lie that most of the Americans fall in the 1920; therefore, when we analyze it we find that “*Gatsby*” is a name of James Gatz a son of poor farmer who is bored of life of poverty and he put up his mind to climb the ladder of richness whatever the means are. While the “*Great*” is an adjective that expresses someone who is perfect in all sides; however, through the novel we perceive that this is a myth, and the use of this word is not in its suitable place because what made *Gatsby Great* is his money that he collects from illegal commitments. Another element that proves that the title is used as satire is when *Gatsby* dies in the end of the novel and it is supposed that all people attend his funeral, but no one does. Consequently, though *Gatsby*’s power to transform his dreams into reality is what makes him “*great*”, and Nick reflects that the era of dreaming both *Gatsby*’s dream and the American dream is over.

Moreover, the American Dream promotes the hard work, and the legal ways in collecting money ;however , the *Great Gatsby* as a novel is a satire to this notions which depicts contrary facts throughout its main character “Gatsby”. The latter gets rich quickly by engaging in illegal activities **“I think he killed a man”(p.55), “He’s a bootlegger”(p.67).**He joins the gangs where he meets Wolshiem who introduces him to Dan Cody

“he beats his way along the south shore of Lake Superior and spends a fortnights at St.Olafts College trying to pay his way through college as a janitor ;but despising the work ,he returns to Lake Superior ,where he meets Dan Cody who finds him extravagantly ambitious”(p.107)

In many scenes in the novel Scott Fitzgerald gives us an image of the new values that sweep the American mentality and reveal the devilish sides of their personalities. Pride and envy are among these bad values that portrayed in the novel, for instance when Tom says **“It’s up to us ,who are the dominant race ,to watch out or these other races will have control of things.”(p.19).**Satire is depicted here when Fitzgerald exposes the lie that the American dream is open to all because those who have power work to keep it.

Furthermore, satire is reflected again through exposing the materialistic society that is based on envy in which everyone covets something he has not got as the case with Gatsby **“took Daisy one still October night ,took her because he had no real right to touch her hand”(p.155)**

Another scene in which satire is pervasive through Gatsby’s parties where drinks and champagne are served to guests in time when the latter is prohibited, thus we find in the novel many words that indicate this like **“champagne” (p.107)**

For the notion of anti-materialism ,this is depicted mainly through Nick characters who plays a double role in the novel the first one as a narrator ,while the second one as a principle character .On contrast with all the characters ,This person is a self made man who refuses to depend on his father fortune and rely on himself to

form his own by moving to New York “so I decided to go East and learn the bond business”(p.09) and work as a bond salesman “you’re selling bonds ,aren’t you ,old sport?”(p. 89).

The *Great Gatsby* functions as a mirror through which to view society, and creating a space for discussion on the current values and ideals, thus it is considered as an effective critic to society. That is to say, we are trying to analyze, how does Fitzgerald use the characters and their relation to the American Dream in the novel to criticize the state of American society via portraying the life style of the characters in the novel.

One of the most central conflicts in the novel is the one between “The Old Money” that is resembled in Tom as a rich man who inherits money and his comfortable life he enjoys with his wife “**their ability to retreat back into their money or their vast carelessness**” (p. 186) vis-à-vis “the New Money” which is depicted in Gatsby’s character as a product of a hard-earned money which is perhaps one of the heaviest deciding factors in Daisy’s choice to stay with Tom instead of Gatsby, is the conflict between ‘Old Money’ and ‘New Money’. This is used to stress the social repercussions and social division on the subject of material excess. Tom and Daisy Buchanan are representatives of the former category, and as such they have a safety net, both financially and socially - as shown in Daisy’s ability to escape any situation with a perfect reputation.

In light of this, Tom’s character becomes a means to criticize aged societal norms. The narrator reveals that Tom’s “**family were enormously wealthy -even in college his freedom with money was a matter for reproach**” (p.12), immediately highlighting the negative connotations Nick and perhaps, by extension, Fitzgerald associates with ‘Old Money’.

Fitzgerald’s emphasizes that those who are most successful in the material race come from fathers who have themselves failed in that same race. This idea displays Tom’s function in the novel as the antithesis to Gatsby, who comes from a poor family

and realizes a financial success. Fitzgerald's critique of "Old Money" is embodied in his depiction of the distasteful and unsympathetic Tom Buchanan. Tom has in many ways come to represent capitalism and the large impersonal corporations which were becoming increasingly important in society at the time.

The role of money in the novel could hardly escape any reader, and this in turn mirrors the view of post World War I American society. The events of the story are full of scenes of the struggle between classes which present the a American society in situation of instability, anarchy and decay of society.

3.10.The psychological interpretation of the novel

The famous psychologist Sigmund Freud is considered as the founding father of the psychoanalysis theory, in this theory he divides the human being's mind into three parts which are the id, the ego and the super ego in order to prove that there are three types of personality; ordinary person who is controlled by the ego, evil person who is controlled by the id, and ideal one who is controlled by the super ego.

The *Great Gatsby* is one of the most remarkable novels of Fitzgerald in a sense that he bases this novel on his personal experiences, telling the American dream in general but a human desire to be wealthy from a psychological perspective. Throughout the principles characters of Fitzgerald's novel it can be divided those characters into the three kinds of people that are mentioned in Freud's theory.

3.10.1.The id

Tom is considered as the perfect example of the outstanding social position in the American society during the Jazz Age , he is a person who has a higher position and a lot of money; moreover, he prefers to be in a world that is created by his own, his obsess by money and Daisy just as a beautiful women drives him to be the most important character who has a evil soul in the novel. It is clear that the greed and the desires of Tom change his inner from as an ordinary man to a person who is controlled by the id.

3.10.2. The Ego

This kind of personality seems clearly through the central protagonist of the novel; Gatsby who is considered as the ordinary person with two sides bad and good, he is the idealistic man sometimes especially when this is concerned with his love to Daisy, and he is the bad person when his desires and greed drive him to look for money by illegal ways. There is no doubt that this character is guided by the ego according to the Freud's psychoanalysis theory.

3.10.3. The super ego

It considered as the idealistic driver in the mind of human being that leads the person to share the principles of the kindness and especial attitudes that show a great respect for the self and for the other. This personality figures out through the main narrator of the story, Nick, who seems from the first time friendly, humble and honest, although he is from an old rich family, his interest is never restricted on money, friendship is one of the most important thing for him, this is illustrated through his strong relationship with Gatsby, he is totally controlled by the spirit of goodness and the super ego.

3.11.A Critical Point of View to *The Great Gatsby*

We can judge the success and fame of any literary work throughout the huge sum of critics and points of views that this work exposes to. This is the case with *The Great Gatsby* that has a lot of criticism by many writer

Before dealing with the work that criticizes Fitzgerald on the style he uses, let's speak a bit about his career as a writer that is not easy in its beginnings when his short stories don't get a big response, consequently, they don't sell very much and the aim behind it is to collect money to pay his debt.

“writers like Fitzgerald, were at the mercy of a relentless marketplace where only the fittest and most thick-skinned and persistent writers survived. Since Fitzgerald was determined to make a career as a novelist which was not a high paid job, he was many times forced to turn out stories in an attempt to

write his way out of debt. The author was never able to meet his high standard living expenses with the income which he received from the publication of his novels alone. The short stories, even though less important to Fitzgerald and his critics from a Conflicting Careers” (Ramadan,2012:97)

For the critical side, there is a work by Matthew .j Brucoli in which he represents a collection of views by many writers on *The Great Gatsby* as Fitzgerald novel. He mentions that this novel exposes to many instructive critics. For instance , the *New York times* is one of the famous magazines that declares that *The Great Gatsby* “**is more than a period piece.**” and “**one of the most scrupulously observed and beautifully written of American novels.**”

Moreover, Dos Passos declares also that *The Great Gatsby* “**is one of the few classic American novels**” .Even after Fitzgerald’s death, his famous novel has been still collecting a tribute and good critics .For instance in 1945 William Troy says that “**Gatsby as Fitzgerald ‘s only completely successful novel**” ,while John Berryman in 1946 says that “**it is a masterpiece**”.

Furthermore, John Ohera is another writer who puts his touch in this work, which is arranged by Matthew .J Brucoli, by paying the tribute on Fitzgerald at first when he says that “**he always knew what he was writing about**”, then ,he criticizes him on the style he uses which was full of adjectives .

In the other side, Brucoli proposes that *The Great Gatsby* gives an image on the social and the anthropological side and people’s life style in general through the use of names of cars like “**Rolls Royce**” (p.55), names of criminals like Charles Becker and Herman Rosenthal in addition to the use of Jazz music that accompanies all *Gatsby*’s parties like the one of “**The Sheik of Araby**”(p.85).

In addition ,another aspect Fitzgerald characterizes by is his reflection to the events of the story as if we are living its events through the use of rhythms, colors like red , yellow and grey ,moreover, use of some notions of place and time like “**by seven o’clock**”(p.46),”**again at eight o’clock**”(p.63). (Brucoli,1985: 2-9).

Mary Jo Tate is another writer who represents a critical commentary on Fitzgerald's third novel, *The Great Gatsby*, upon the structure, narrative technique and style. One of the most features Fitzgerald uses in this novel prologue and epilogue as an contradictory notions, the first one is used in the beginning of the story in which he starts describing Nick's father advises **"whenever you feel like criticizing anyone" he told me "just remember that all the people in this world haven't the advantages that you have had"**(p.07). While for the second notion he uses in the last page of the novel.

In another issue in the novel, Fitzgerald uses a combination of truths and lies in order to make the novel's main character, Gatsby, more believable to the readers.

Moreover, another technique he uses in many scenes in the novel, is the flash back and his reliance on third-party witness, Nick Carraway, who becomes later involved in the events of the story and its main narrator as it is shown in the first four paragraphs of the first chapter.

Thereby, Nick is the moral center of the novel who gives judgments on the other characters, and in order to strengthen more his role in the novel, Fitzgerald gives him a position of its narrator when Nick says about Gatsby **"the man who gives his name to this book"**(p.08)

In addition to structure and narrative technique, Fitzgerald characterizes of the use of style and imagery in his novel through describing someone emotional experience in terms of another, also he describes sounds in terms of color. Moreover he brings inanimate objects to live with vivid imagery such as when Nick says

"the lawn started at the beach and run toward the front door for a quarter of mile jumping over sun-dials and brick walks and burning gardens-finally when it reached the house drifting up the side in bright vines as though from the momentum of its run."(p.19)

Without forgetting his over use to verbs and adjectives.

The most two significant elements that Fitzgerald is criticized on in his novel is his imitation to both Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* in terms of relying on third

person narrator that is resembled in this novel by Nick .While for the second point it is stated that the irresponsible writer as he is called uses the same technique T.S. Eliot uses in *The Waste Land* through the much use of symbols which Fitzgerald uses to portray his memories and emotions and to reflect the real time which is America in the Jazz Age .(Jo Tate,1998:90-93)

3.12 Conclusion

What can be concluded in the end of this chapter that this novel embodies a full images and dimensions about the reality of the American Dream which calls for a hard work, happy life owning cars and what is more important is the equal opportunities to all people ;however, what have been discovered in this novel is the contrary because it depicts all what is awful and ugly in the American society.

General Conclusion

It is obvious ,that satire ,anti-materialism and social criticism are mostly used elements in any literary work in which the writer reveal the real meaning of any subject he is developing .Therefore this dissertation attempts to help the coming readers in exploring these notions in literature in general and their depiction in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* in specific .

In addition , our choice of this novel does not come randomly ,because it is considered as the most successful work ever written in the 1920 that reflects the wrong commitments of the American nation during the Roaring Twenties. Moreover, this period knows the absence of the human sense which is substituted by greediness and materialism where the narrator Nick shows us these bitter realities .Thus ,this novel focuses on examining the notions of satire ,anti-materialism and social criticism and how they make us judge that the American Dream is a big lie that invaded the American nation 's thoughts .

In this novel, which is considered as a modernist work , Fitzgerald reflects the bad effects of technology upon the society and notably on women who neglect their roles as mothers and wives and run for liberty and money .Thereby, we may say that this novelist succeeds somehow to give an overall picture on his society .However, we do not deny that this novel first of all is a mirror that reflects his own life and experience as a citizen from this society where he passes in a given period of time a difficult times like poverty ,addiction to alcohol and oppression till he is given the name "irresponsible writer" after these bad commitments .

Through the variety of the narrative techniques Fitzgerald uses, we can say that he succeeds in presenting the events of story from the moment when Nick leaves his home in the Midwest to the one when he comes back to it.

Throughout this research, we come also to a point that the personality of the Americans does not enjoy transparency because all people are ready to change it in order to obtain their benefits whatever the price is.

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ملخص

هذا البحث يتطرق إلى كيفية تقديم فيتزجيرالد للسخرية الامادية و النقد الاجتماعي في روايته "كاتسبي العظيم" لتصوير حقيقة الحلم الأمريكي من خلال توظيف مجموعة من النظريات التي قد تساهم في كشف هذه المفاهيم و استعمالاتها في الأدب. هذه الدراسة تعكس أيضا وضعية المجتمع الأمريكي في زمن غابت فيه القيم و أصبح الامريكيون مهتمون أكثر بالجانب المادي أكثر منه بالجانب الإنساني إثناء الأزمة الاقتصادية . لإثبات ذلك هذه الأطروحة تفحص مختلف تقنيات السرد التي استعملها فيتزجيرالد من اجل عكس فساد الحلم الأمريكي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: السخرية، الامادية، النقد الاجتماعي، النظرية النسوية، النظرية الحديثة، رواية كاتسبي العظيم

Résumé

Ce document de recherche a tendance à examiner comment Fitzgerald représenter satire, anti- matérialisme et criticisme social pour révéler le réalité de Rêve Américain dans son roman « Gatsby le Magnifique » grâce a l'emploi du collection de travaux théorique et pratique que peut être utile dans l'exploration de ces phénomènes et leur utilisation dans la littérature . Cette étude présente aussi la situation du society American in période de l'absence du valeurs et tout le américains ont intéressés beaucoup de cote matérialiste que l'humaine ou tempe de crise économique . Par conséquent , cette thèse examine les différentes technique narratives utilisées par Fitzgerald afin de refléter la corruption du Rêve Américain avec manière Compréhensive .

Mots clés : satire, antimatérialisme et critique social, théorie féminisme, théorie modernisme, Gatsby le Magnifique.

Summary:

This search paper tends to examine how Fitzgerald represents satire ,anti-materialism and social criticism to show the reality of the American Dream in his novel “The Great Gatsby” through using a collection of theoretical and practical frameworks that can be helpful in exploring these notions and their use in literature . This study presents also the situation of the American society in period when there is the absence of values and all the Americans are interested more in the materialistic side than the humanistic one in time of the economic crisis . Therefore, this dissertation examines the different narrative techniques that Fitzgerald used in order to reflect the corruption of the American Dream in a comprehensive way .

Key words: satire , anti-materialism and social criticism ,feminism theory ,modernism theory, The Great Gatsby.