

Name _____

Gatsby's Goal Answer Key

Reflection Question Guidance

1. Gatsby pursues Daisy because he believes she represents his ideal happiness and the fulfillment of his dream.
2. His vision of Daisy is more **idealized** than real; he imagines her as perfect and unchanging, while reality shows her flaws and limitations.
3. Gatsby's motivation drives the central conflicts: the parties, the secret meetings, the confrontation in New York, and ultimately his death.
4. Students may argue either way:
 - **Love:** He cannot stop loving her despite the odds.
 - **Dream/status:** Daisy symbolizes the American Dream, wealth, and perfection; his pursuit is as much about reclaiming his ideal self as about Daisy herself.

Teacher Notes:

- Push students to see the difference between **Daisy as a person** and **Daisy as a symbol** of Gatsby's dream.
- Emphasize how motivation analysis deepens understanding of **character-driven plots**.
- Accept multiple interpretations if supported by **textual evidence**.