

ACTIVE READING NOTES – GREAT GATSBY

Reading and Literature Studies

Active Reading Notes are a very important part of studying literature. Taking notes forces you to listen or read carefully, paying close attention to the conventions and literary devices that the Author has carefully crafted in their work. You test your own understanding of the material by reflecting on what you have just read. These notes can then be used towards quizzes, assignments, tests and the final exam. Finally, through the practice of active reading, you will learn how to identify your areas of strength and weakness, questions or concerns to support your learning of the text.

Your notes should include:

- At least FIVE literary devices (minimum requirement). Refer to literary terms handout.
- Describe setting, character, plot
- Identify important quotes
- Analyze the text: why is this significant to the story? What do YOU think the Author was trying to convey?
- Make connections: to text, self, and the world
- Reflect on theme

Format:

You should have experience writing these types of notes in ENG3UO, but here is a template that many students find helpful. You must complete these notes for one chapter of the book and aim for at least one pages/chapter (roughly 300 words minimum). You can hand-write your notes, or type them.

Please keep in mind, your notes should only be based on ONE chapter. You are welcome and encouraged to take notes for every chapter, but it is not mandatory.

You can change the layout to suit your preference, but you should include the same content.

Sample Template for Reading Notes (at least one page/chapter)

Page #	What caught your attention? Quote, literary device, character action, plot, setting, image, reflection, connection	Why did this catch your attention, or why is this significant?	Questions or comments?