**Reading Strategies Metacognitive Journal**

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| **Strategy** | **Quotation** | **My Response** |
| **Predict:** Make a smart guess about what’s going to happen next | “If personality is an unbroken series of successful gestures, then there was something gorgeous about him, some heightened sensitivity to the promises of life, as if he were related to one of those intricate machines that register earthquakes ten thousand miles away.”  -Fitzgerald(2) | I believe that this foreshadows Gatsby’s personality. “An unbroken series of successful gestures” states that he may have luck, or extreme riches involved in his life. He may contain some knowledge or possession that is a privilege and something that other people may envy or crave. As well, when it relates him to an “earthquake” that make an effect from ten thousand miles away, I believe that that foreshadows that throughout the book whatever Gatsby possesses that makes him so great and envied, will end up crashing or failing, and end up effecting many characters in the book in a negative way. |
| **Clarify**:  Look closer when something is confusing |  |  |
| **Visualize:** Imagine a picture or movie in your mind as you read | “The last swimmers have come in from the beach now and are dressing up-stairs; the cars from New York are parked five deep in the drive, and already the halls and salons and verandas are gaudy with primary colors, and hair shorn in strange new ways, and shawls beyond the dreams of Castile. The bar is in full swing, and floating rounds of cocktails permeate the garden outside, until the air is alive with chatter and laughter, and the casual innuendo and introductions forgotten on the spot, and enthusiastic meetings between women who never knew each other’s names.”  -Fitzgerald (40) | Whenever I visualize this, I see social class at its finest. I picture women and men in sophisticated clothing, trying to prove their worth at these types of parties. I see it as a place where people come to indulge in Gatsby’s wealth, and they too would like to prove their wealthiness by the way that they dress, the things that they speak of, and the way they act. I picture a house that is all white, with marble stairs and very glamorous décor throughout the house, such as large chandeliers, rooms that are very open and have a lot of space, taken up by furniture that is very elegant. I picture waiters in suits serving platters of alcohol to people, and the alcohol being the reason that the women are so enthusiastically meeting with others that they do not know. I picture the house as being very bright, lit up by the people who attend these parties. I also picture tables full of lavish food filled as though it was a Christmas dinner. |
| **Ask Questions:** Ask questions to learn more | “Sometimes they came and went without having met Gatsby at all, came for the party with a simplicity of heart that was its own ticket of admission.”  -Fitzgerald (41) | When I first read this, it made me wonder about Gatsby’s personality. He opens his house up to people who have never met him, the majority of whom have no idea who he is or what he looks like. I wondered if maybe he was having these parties to make him feel important. Maybe an event occurred in his life where he had felt alone, or a very traumatic event happened to him and he needs to be surrounded by people to ease the pain. Gatsby does not speak much of his family, I believe that could have been part of the reason he may need these people to make him feel important. |
| **Make Connections:** Connect what you’re reading to something else | “By the next autumn she was gay again, gay as ever. She had a debut after the Armistice, and in February she was presumably engaged to a man from New Orleans. 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 Seelbach Hotel, and the day before the wedding he gave her a string of pearls valued at three hundred and fifty thousand dollars”  -Fitzgerald ( | This quote in the book reminds me of the idea of social class in the film Titanic. It seems as though in the time period that the movie was based around, as well as the time period that this booked was based during, social class was a big deal. And it seems as though people are always having to prove what they’re worth by giving expensive gifts, i.e. the string of pearls that Tom gave to Daisy, and the diamond necklace that Cal gave to Rose on the Titanic. Both of these gestures occurred to prove their wealth to society. |
| **Summarize:** Retell what happened in the story so far | The book begins being narrated by a man named Nick Carraway. He moves to New York and ends up renting a house in a town called West Egg. Beside him, he has a mansion, maintained by a man named Jay Gatsby. For the beginning of this book, Nick is spending most of his time around his cousin Daisy, her husband Tom, and their friend Jordan who is supposed to become a love interest of Nick’s. When Nick is over at his cousin’s house, Daisy makes mention of knowing the man that Nick lives beside, Gatsby. As the story goes on, Nick ends up going to town and meeting the girl who is a mistress of Toms. Later on, Nick finds himself being invited to his neighbor’s house, as he is hosting a party. The party is very sophisticated, housing many people that do not even know the host’s name. While at this party, Nick hears many zany rumors about what Gatsby did as a career, and how he came upon his riches. | |

**Reading Strategies Metacognitive Journal: Example – Hunger Games Chapter 1**

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| **Strategy** | **Quotation** | **My Response** |
| **Predict:** Make a smart guess about what’s going to happen next | “Effie Trinket crosses back to the podium, smoothes the slip of paper, and reads out the name in a clear voice. And it’s not me.” (Collins 20) | Immediately, when I read this, I thought that the tribute that was chosen would have a close relationship to Katniss. I think that this would make sense because if Katniss is the novel’s protagonist than she would have to somehow be connected to the people participating in the games. I think that Katniss will ultimately end up fighting in the games herself or attempting to stop the games through force. |
| **Clarify**:  Look closer when something is confusing | “This is the day of the reaping.” (Collins 3). | At this point in the chapter I had no clue what a ‘reaping’ was. Since the next paragraph didn’t explain it, I paused and took a minute to look it up online. Most definitions related the word to farming which lead me to believe that it was harvest day in their district. A read on only to discover that it was in fact harvest day, however, they were harvesting contestants (kids) to fight to the death. |
| **Visualize:** Imagine a picture or movie in your mind as you read | “We settle back in a nook in the rocks. From this place, we are invisible but have a clear view of the valley, which is teeming with summer life, greens to gather, roots to dig, fish iridescent in the sunlight. The day is glorious, with a blue sky and soft breeze.” (Collins 9). | This was a particularly striking scene for me. I pictured this fantasy forest, glowing meadows and beautiful forestry. It reminded me of the movie Avatar and their habitat as it’s rich and plentiful. It really sounds like a place I would love to go for peace and quiet. Collins introduces this setting in stark contrast to what we’ve read already. The Hob and the Seam are dark, dreary and depressing. Katniss and Gale clearly come here to escape reality as well as to hunt and provide for their families. |
| **Ask Questions:** Ask questions to learn more | “Prim’s face is as fresh as a raindrop, as lovely as the primrose for which she was named. My mother was beautiful once, too.” (Collins 3). | This character introduction happens on the first page of the novel where Katniss describes both her mother and sister in detail. Where is her dad? I wonder if I will find out later that they are fighting or that he has left the family behind. Where did/would he go? Who is supporting the family? Is Katniss more like her dad or her mom? I hope Collins answers these questions shortly. I find it odd that Katniss introduces us to her sisters nasty looking cat and not her father. |
| **Make Connections:** Connect what you’re reading to something else | “You become eligible for the reaping the day you turn twelve. That year your name is entered once. At thirteen, twice. And so on and so on until you reach the age of eighteen,” (Collins 13). | This is Katniss explaining the reaping and how it works regarding Tesserae. This made me think of one of my favourite stories, “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson. This story involves a similar lottery where two names are drawn every year and the family who is chosen via the draw has to redraw amongst only themselves and the loser is stoned to death as a sacrifice to a good harvest. It’s a great story but it makes me angry how unfair and awful it is that people are forced to do these types of things by the people in power. I know I am going to have similar feelings in the Hunger Games towards the Capitol. |
| **Summarize:** Retell what happened in the story so far | Chapter One of the Hunger Games begins with a brief introduction to the protagonist, Katniss, and her family and friends. Then, Collins reveals to us what life is like in this post-apocalyptic society. It is very strict in its rules and punishments for breaking them appear to be severe. Gale is Katniss’ best friend and hunting partner. Her mother and sister, Prim, live with them and her dad died in a coal mining explosion, which seems to be the key resource for District 12. Then we, as readers , learn that the Hunger Games are an annual event where 1 male and 1 female are chosen from a draw each year to fight in an arena to the death! These two are called ‘tributes’. They compete against other tributes from each of the 12 districts and it is televised. | |