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6 April 2025

Paper 2 Cover Letter

When I started the process of writing my Unit 2 paper, I began by reflecting on the things I needed to fix about my first paper. My thesis was not as strong as it could have been, my ACE paragraphs were not nearly developed enough, and my thoughts were scattered. With this in mind, I tried to improve my skills in these areas to make my second paper great. My ACE paragraphs have a lot of depth, my thesis is relevant to my whole paper, and my roadmap helped me organize my writing.

The primary key term and center of my argument is the American Dream and how it differs from *The Great Gatsby* and *Beautiful Little Fools*. Fitzgerald's telling of the story through Nick's narration focuses on the male American Dream. However, Cantor's reimagining of the original novel expands the American Dream to the female characters through the narration of Daisy, Jordan, and Catherine.

My argument is important because it values inclusivity between gender and social class. Readers of *The Great Gatsby* should care about my argument because it offers a different perspective on the novel that can open up someone's mind. I support the arguments I made in my paper to a great extent because Cantor's retelling of the story gave me a broader perspective on the characters. I would describe my stance in the novel as firm because I believe in the argument I'm presenting and I will maintain that stance throughout the essay by backing it up with solid evidence.

My thesis evolved from the conference draft to my final draft because I focused on the aspects of the American Dream and class in the different novels instead of gender and class. The

argument strategy that I developed was to compare the characters in the two novels and how their American Dreams evolved. This strategy supports my thesis because it reflects on the American Dream and its portrayal in the two novels.

I think that my strongest paragraph is my first ACE paragraph, which is about Daisy. It is the most successful because I was able to take quotations from both novels to synthesize her character between the two stories. My least successful paragraph was probably my ACE paragraph about Catherine. It was not as in-depth as the others because there is not much to compare her to in the first novel because she is not mentioned very much in *The Great Gatsby*. If I had time for further revision, I would improve this paragraph by focusing on the few times she is mentioned in the original novel and finding ways to include it in my essay.

One of the challenges I faced when writing my Unit 2 paper was focusing on one thing to write about. There were a lot of ways that I could craft this paper to compare the two novels, but I focused on the American Dream after discussing it during my conference draft.

I feel more confident with writing ACE paragraphs because I can visibly see a great improvement from my first paper to this paper. I think that my writing has evolved to be more descriptive and in-depth when I am explaining my evidence and synthesizing.