

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

The Great Gatsby

THE FITZGERALD'S: A PEEK INTO THEIR POCKETBOOK

Monthly Expenditure, 1923

For the following questions, compute the answers into today's dollars. Use this figure, based on a recent check of the calculator at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website:

\$1.00 in 1923 = \$15.25 today

1. Rent?
2. Food?
3. Servants?
4. Clothes for Zelda?
5. Clothes for F. Scott?
6. Clothes for their daughter, Scotty?
7. "House liquor" and "wild parties" combined?
8. Ice? Why so much?
9. Plumber? Why so much?
10. Total monthly expenses?

Expenses:

Household/Family			
\$200.00	Taxes	\$300.00	Rent
\$200.00	Food	\$35.00	Coal/Wood
\$8.50	Ice	\$27.00	Gas
\$14.50	Light	\$25.00	Phone
\$5.00	Water	\$295.00	Servants
\$42.50	Doctors	\$32.50	Drug Store
\$105.50	Club	\$5.00	Newspapers
\$14.50	Books	\$9.00	Flowers
\$23.00	Auto	\$13.50	Plumber
\$1.50	Electric	\$4.00	Computation
\$33.00	Scott's Clothes	\$100.00	Zelda's Clothes
\$25.00	Baby's Clothes	\$12.00	Typing
\$81.00	Household/Miscellaneous Charging		

Trips, Pleasures, and Parties

\$80.00	House Liquor	\$26.50	Plaza
\$33.00	Alabama	\$10.00	Atlantic City
\$20.00	Theatre	\$10.00	Barber
\$15.00	Hair Dressing	\$4.00	Charity
\$100.00	Wild Parties	\$15.00	Taxis
\$33.00	Gambling	\$25.00	Lunches (N.Y.)
\$29.00	Subway	\$276.00	Miscellaneous Cash

\$2288.50 Total

*******WHEN FINISHED*******

On the back of this paper, write a summary of what you learned about the Fitzgeralds' lifestyle. What sounds good? What sounds bad? What do their purchases say about their priorities? Do you think people today have similar or different priorities? Explain your answers. (Yes, I'm looking for at least five sentences here.)