

## AP Language Summer/Winter Reading and Writing Assignment (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell. Then, answer each of the following questions. You can handwrite or type your responses. Provide the question number for each answer.

Your responses should be at least six to ten sentences per question. You also need to provide specific examples from the texts to support your responses. You are encouraged to incorporate one or two direct quotes per question (with page number citations). Your responses need to be well argued and thoroughly supported with the assigned texts.

\*You should expect a test, project, or writing assessment for all assigned texts the first week you return to school. The texts will be used in the first nine weeks as you are introduced to rhetorical analysis and argumentative writing.

1. In *The Great Gatsby*, is Nick Carraway a reliable narrator? Why?
2. Who is ultimately at fault for the death in Chapter 7 of *The Great Gatsby*? You may choose any character, but your argument should be supported with evidence from earlier portions of the novel.
3. Is Daisy correct? Is the best thing a girl can be in the world “a beautiful little fool”? Use evidence from the text AND from your own observations (media, cultural norms, etc.) or experiences.
4. Was Gatsby trying to pursue the American dream? Provide two quotes with page numbers to support your response.
5. Explain Gladwell’s theory about what makes a person successful. You should use evidence from at least three different chapters. Do you agree with his assessment? Why?
6. After reading *Outliers*, which is more important for success: opportunity or legacy? Why?