

Subject: **Macbeth (William Shakespeare)**

<b>Themes</b>	<b>Theses</b>	<b>Details</b>
Ambition	<i>Be careful that ambition doesn't overwhelm you that you will make bad judgments, and act improperly</i>	Once Macbeth has had a taste of power, he's willing to kill anyone who he thinks might undermine his seat on Scotland's throne (King Duncan, his best friend Banquo, Macduff's wife and son).
Masculinity	<i>It is a universal image that power tends to be linked with men, and men are expected to be brave and courageous.</i>	One of the reason why Macbeth carries out the murder is because he wants to prove his masculinity.
Fate	<i>Don't blame fate for everything you've done</i>	It isn't Macbeth's fate to be a traitor and a king-killer. He's responsible for his actions.
Manipulation	<i>Some extreme actions are not always voluntary, but involves other's manipulation</i>	Macbeth has the power to be a good king, but he allows his wife to manipulate him
Power	<i>Sometimes, honest men, once achieve position of power, became corrupt</i>	Macbeth, once became king, started to be more and more of a tyrant because he had power in his hand.

Subject: **The Great Gatsby (F. Scott Fitzgerald)**

<b>Themes</b>	<b>Theses</b>	<b>Details</b>
Money	<i>Money can't buy true love and friendship</i>	Gatsby attempts to impress Daisy with his extravagant lifestyle and wild parties. However, he fails to realize that extravagance cannot win love.
Physical Beauty	<i>Physical beauty is fickle and fleeting, and it is not the best virtue.</i>	Daisy flirts and wins the heart of Gatsby, but then she leaves him despite his immense efforts. Daisy's beauty and high virtue is just a construction of Gatsby's idealism, not who she really is.
Achievement	<i>Achievement, which is gained illegally, is useless.</i>	Gatsby achieves a lofty goal by participating in bootlegging alcohol and other illegal activities. In the end, Gatsby's dream is over as he met his tragedy in the end.
American Dream	<i>The American Dream is intricately linked with materialism</i>	Fitzgerald's novel <i>The Great Gatsby</i> showed how the American Dream is very

		shallow on the surface and links mostly with money
Old wealth vs. new wealth	<i>Upper social class tends to resist changes, especially if that change challenges its power</i>	In the novel <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , one of the reasons why Gatsby was hated is because he represents the new rich, unlike Tom Buchanan.

**Subject: On Liberty (John Mill)**

<b>Themes</b>	<b>Theses</b>	<b>Details</b>
Religious Bigotry	<i>Religious prejudices directed against others stem from the mentality that one's belief is better</i>	In the essay, Mill states how the Crusades of the Catholic Church is a prime example of religious bigotry and persecution, because the Crusaders believed their culture is better than that of the Muslims.
Women's right	<i>Women's right has long been a main topic of discussion in history.</i>	In "On Liberty", Mill explicitly expressed disapproval of domestic abuses, especially on the part of the dominating patriarch
Children's education	<i>Education is one of the most important things for mankind.</i>	Mill argued that the state is responsible for providing the means for children to be educated because education encourages diversity of opinions.
Open minded	<i>It is necessary for men to always constantly debate about an idea, and hear his opponent's idea as well.</i>	In his essay, Mill stated that the reason why so many people are stupid is because they only study what the school provided and from their teachers. Intelligent men study by themselves and willing to listen to other truths, even if the truth might seem false at first.
Noninterference	<i>Government should not interfere with actions which only concern the individuals.</i>	Mill argued for individualism, stating that government should allow individuals to do things that only concern themselves, and government should not interfere with them unless such actions might cause harm to others.