The “Great Gatsby Curve” Questions and Responses

Short answers

Warm up

1. Do you see Jay Gatsby, the protagonist of “The Great Gatsby”, as a hero or a crook? Make references to the story outlines upon his character and actions.

1. Do you believe that there is financial inequality in the United States? Why or why not? What proof do you see in your own life?

2. Why do you think that there are certain people who have not been able to become rich? How can someone become wealthy?

Wealth Inequality in America

1. What view of the author in this video?

2. How does the author prove his credibility (or not)? How does the Washington Post article prove or not prove his message and facts?

3. Did your answers from the questions before change after watching the video?
“Great Gatsby Curve” Article Questions

1. Is there inequality in the American economic system? Defend your answer with specific quotes, statistics, and other evidence from the text.

2. Does having an economic system with inequality a good thing that reflects the hard work, skills and ambition of some, and the laziness, and lack of desire to be successful in others?

2. Does inequality limit opportunities for the poor to create a better future for their children, and place unfair barriers to success on them regardless of their talent?

Long answer for homework

In your own words explain the “Great Gatsby Curve” and why it may play a key role in our understanding of how the American economic system works? Make sure to include an explanation of the graph, use terminology from the Glossary, and provide specific examples from the article. Please write or type on a separate sheet of paper.