Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Chapter 7: GATSBY VS. TOM

[EXAMPLE: +1 point for Gatsby when Daisy remarks that he looks "so cool," which is apparently code for "I love you."]

Chapter 7 unfolds dramatically, which makes it a prime example of what is called the **"scenic method,"** a narrative technique often employed by F. Scott Fitzgerald but created by American novelist Henry James. The **"scenic method"** means the author presents a series of scenes from which the readers can draw their own conclusions about the character and events, as opposed to the author spelling things out directly for the readers. The conflict between Gatsby and Tom that culminates in the Plaza Hotel "showdown" is developed primarily through this method. On the provided tracking sheet, you will be interpreting action/dialogue to determine who—Gatsby or Tom—is "winning" throughout key sections of the text, using a simple points system. Each action/remark—positive or negative—is worth one point. Log/briefly explain each action/remark and keep a running total so you can easily see which character is in the lead in each scene.

After tracking the showdown, answer the following questions:

What was the "turning point" in the showdown when it became apparent that Gatsby was not going to "win" this confrontation? Explain.

_____

_____

_____

_____

What could Gatsby have done differently, for a possible different outcome? Explain.

_____

_____

_____

_____

When Gatsby declares that Daisy "never loved" Tom and asks Daisy to tell Tom this, Daisy answers indirectly and then later says "I never loved him," but with "perceptible reluctance." Why does Daisy answer indirectly and then state this reluctantly? Why does Gatsby need her to say this? Explain.

_____

_____

_____

_____

What causes Daisy to become frightened, withdraw from the encounter, and lose any courage she had possessed? Explain.

_____

_____

_____

_____

GATSBY VS. TOM: TRACKING SHEET

GATSBY			TOM		
+ or -	Description (include pg. #)	Total	Total	Description (include pg. #)	+ or -

GATSBY			TOM		
+ or -	Description (include pg. #)	Total	Total	Description (include pg. #)	+ or -