HACU130T: Literature and Culture in the Jazz Age
Essay 1 draft response sheet

ESSAY BY ____________________
REVIEWER’S NAME_________________

BASICS
• Is there a heading with the name, course name and number, assignment name, and the date? ____
• Does the essay have a title? _____
• Does the essay have printed page numbers? _____
• Does the essay include a works cited list? _____
• Is the essay 4-5 pages in length? _____
• Is the essay double spaced? _____

ARGUMENT
• Underline what you consider to be the essay’s thesis statement.

• What argument is the writer making? Is this claim narrow enough? Can it be supported using the chosen texts? If no argument is clearly articulated, where does the essay’s center of gravity seem to lie?

• What analytical/conceptual terms are important to the essay? Are these key terms clearly defined?

STRUCTURE
• What kind of introduction does this essay have? Does the existing introduction set up the paper well, or might a different kind of introduction work better?

• Are there places where the order of paragraphs might be rearranged?

• Are there logical connections and transitions between paragraphs?
• Does the end of the essay conclude the argument satisfactorily and address its implications? If the conclusion has not been written yet, what implications could be addressed in the conclusion?

USE OF EVIDENCE/PRIMARY SOURCES
• Is there sufficient use of evidence from the primary source(s) (The Great Gatsby and other sources)? Where and how could primary source material be used more effectively?

• Are there parts of the essay that are supported with evidence, and others that are not?

• Can you distinguish the arguments made by different secondary sources?

• Is it clear where the source material ends and the writer’s analysis begins?

• Does the writer engage with the texts, introducing and contextualizing them, rather than plugging in various quotes or paraphrases?

• Has the writer cited the text correctly, and supplied a “works cited” list at the end of the paper?

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES
• What do you consider to be this draft’s greatest strength?

• What do you consider to be this draft’s greatest weakness?