

Learning is interdisciplinary; let's bring some math into the discussion!

Let's do some calculations to figure out what a Gatsby party might cost in 2025.

Below is a chart of items Gatsby would have had at his parties based on items mentioned in the novel and the cost of said items in 1922.

Items	1922
<b>orchestra (per concert)</b>	\$156.52
<b>colorful lights (200 ft)</b>	\$18.80
<b>oranges (50lbs)</b>	\$13.43
<b>lemons (50lbs)</b>	\$18.38
<b>finger sandwiches (400)</b>	\$140.00
<b>oysters (75)</b>	\$6.75
<b>caviar (14 oz)</b>	\$23.14
<b>cheeses (4kg)</b>	\$6.96
<b>sardines (50)</b>	\$1.75
<b>mushrooms (3 lb)</b>	\$15.66
<b>crab (1 lb)</b>	\$0.61
<b>gin (20)</b>	\$87.00
<b>liquor (30)</b>	\$261.00
<b>ham (40lb)</b>	\$4.40
<b>turkey (40lb)</b>	\$19.20
<b><i>salads of harlequin</i></b>	
<b>Red cabbage (3 heads)</b>	\$0.66
<b>Regular cabbage (3 heads)</b>	\$0.51
<b>Peas (2lb)</b>	\$0.54
<b>Beets (1 bunch)</b>	\$0.22
<b>Onion (1 lb)</b>	\$0.11
<b>Carrot (1 bunch)</b>	\$0.13
<b>French dressing (32 oz)</b>	\$1.84

1. Based on the above numbers, how much would a party cost at Gatsby?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Given that there are 12 weeks in the summer season, and considering that Gatsby spent the same amount on each weekly party, how much money did Gatsby spend on partying over the summer?

3. Now, I want you to convert the item costs from the table above to the amount they would cost in 2025 (use this inflation calculator to help <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/>)
  
4. So how much would a 2025 Gatsby party cost?
  
5. How much would a summer of 2025 Gatsby parties cost?
  
6. Why do you think Gatsby, and West Egg in general, bothers to be so extravagant? What purpose does it serve? Incorporate a discussion of the theme 'appearances vs. reality' here. In your opinion, which should be held in higher standing - old money or new money?