

Your thoughts on the following prompts (2-3 sentences each) 10 minutes.

1: What do you think it means when someone says they're "breaking down"? Is it weakness, or can it be a sign of strength or honesty? Explain your opinion.

2: Fitzgerald begins his essay by saying, "Of course all life is a process of breaking down." What do you think he means by that? Do you agree or disagree? Explain briefly.

Notes

- What is the Jazz Age?
- Elaborate the term "Lost Generation"
- Meaning of the words 'disillusion', 'cynical', 'wane' and 'idealism'
- Name one renowned work of Fitzgerald

- Background of “The Crack Up”
- What personal experiences may have influenced the author’s writing?
- Tone of the essay briefly
- Some of the central ideas of the essay

On your own

1: What does this metaphorical “crack-up” allude to? How does Fitzgerald’s “crack-up” reveal a change in how he sees himself or the world?

Your response should include ideas and evidence from the text.

2: Vocabulary

Word	Sentence/phrase example from essay OR How is the author using this in the essay?	Meaning from context	Dictionary definition
Reprieve			cancel or postpone the punishment of (someone, especially someone condemned to death); a cancellation or postponement of a punishment.
Improbable			not likely to be true or to happen; unexpected and apparently inauthentic
Crack			a line on the surface of something along which it has split without breaking into separate parts.
Retrospect			a survey or review of a past course of events or period of time
Introspection			
Equanimity			mental calmness, composure, and evenness of temper,

			especially in a difficult situation
Insulation			The act of protecting (something) by interposing material that prevents the loss of heat or the intrusion of sound
Weaned			Be strongly influenced by (something), especially from an early age.
Inscrutable			Impossible to understand

3: Ideas in the Essay - What messages or ideas come through?

State the idea of the essay	Evidence from essay	Your interpretation