At the end of Daisy’s Dock there is a green light that is always flashing, and you are able to see it from the end of Gatsby’s dock. The distance that separates Gatsby from Daisy, lie across the span of water between their houses, the very distance between West Egg and East Egg. The Green Light signifies Gatsby’s dream of getting Daisy. Before Nick meets Gatsby he sees him standing at the end of his dock -

“Gatsby gazed at a single green light, minute and far away, that might have been the end of a dock.”

The Green Light represents the unattainable dream, as well as representing Gatsby’s hopes and dreams for the future, so therefore the light also represents Daisy. The Green Light represents everything that haunts and beckons Gatsby- the physical and emotional distance between him and Daisy, the gap between the past and present, the pressures of the future, and the powerful lure of that other green stuff he craves-money. Gatsby’s quest for Daisy is broadly associated with the American Dream. Gatsby reaches toward the Green Light in the darkness as it is a guiding light to lead him to his goal.

Unfortunately near the end of the novel the Green light goes out, which shows that no matter how hard you try, what you dream for isn’t always achievable- which also represents how the American Dream is conveyed in the novel. It represents the corrupt American Dream of extreme wealth. Gatsby has achieved the American Dream, because he went from nothing to being very wealthy, but we discover that beneath the surface that there is more to it, as the dream is built on lies and corruption. This shows that Fitzgerald’s use of symbolism is a metaphor of the American Dream, and helps me to appreciate the novel in more depth.

In conclusion, Fitzgerald’s use of narrative point of view helps me to appreciate the novel “The Great Gatsby”, it helps me to understand the social class differences, the American dream and the time of the Roaring 20’s.