

CHAPTER 7: CLOSE READING OF MYRTLE WILSON'S DEATH

Directions: Watch the video (<http://www.showme.com/sh/?h=4LxrRWi>) and then answer the questions below.

1. What is implied by “the business was over,” both literally and figuratively?
2. What is implied by the use of the word “knelt”? How is this symbolic?
3. What is being conveyed by the observation that Myrtle’s “thick, dark blood mingled with the dust”? Think about where she lives and her social status. What could this suggest?
4. “There was no need to listen for the heart beneath. The mouth. . . .” Why not use her heart and her mouth?
5. Why do you think Myrtle’s death is described so violently? What could Fitzgerald be suggesting through this description?