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| **Summary** | ***from* The Great Gatsby, Chapter 1** | **Author's Purpose:** |
| What can we *infer* about Tom from the shaded quote about Tom’s “acute limited excellence…”?   |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  | |  |   Based on the context, "**supercilious**" most nearly means what?   |  | | --- | |  | |  | | Her husband, among various physical accomplishments, had been one of the most powerful ends that ever played football at New Haven — a national figure in a way, one of those men who reach such an acute limited excellence at twenty-one that everything afterward savors of anti-climax. His family were enormously wealthy — even in college his freedom with money was a matter for reproach — but now he’d left Chicago and come East in a fashion that rather took your breath away: for instance, he’d brought down a string of polo ponies from Lake Forest. It was hard to realize that a man in my own generation was wealthy enough to do that.  Why they came East I don’t know. They had spent a year in France for no particular reason, and then drifted here and there unrestfully wherever people played polo and were rich together. This was a permanent move, said Daisy over the telephone, but I didn’t believe it — I had no sight into Daisy’s heart, but I felt that Tom would drift on forever seeking, a little wistfully, for the dramatic turbulence of some irrecoverable football game.  …  He had changed since his New Haven years. Now he was a sturdy straw-haired man of thirty with a rather hard mouth and a **supercilious** manner. Two shining arrogant eyes had established dominance over his face and gave him the appearance of always leaning aggressively forward. Not even the **effeminate** swank of his riding clothes could hide the enormous power of that body — he seemed to fill those glistening boots until he strained the top lacing, and you could see a great pack of muscle shifting when his shoulder moved under his thin coat. It was a body capable of enormous leverage — a cruel body.  His speaking voice, a gruff husky tenor, added to the impression of fractiousness he conveyed. There was a touch of paternal contempt in it, even toward people he liked — and there were men at New Haven who had hated his guts.  “Now, don’t think my opinion on these matters is final,” he seemed to say, “just because I’m stronger and more of a man than you are.” We were in the same senior society, and while we were never intimate I always had the impression that he approved of me and wanted me to like him with some harsh, defiant wistfulness of his own.  In the opening, Nick says “Reserving judgments is a matter of infinite hope.” **Evaluate** to what extend Nick is following his own beliefs here.   |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | | What is the **tone** of Nick’s comment that “[Tom and Daisy]…drifted here and there unrestfully wherever people played polo and were rich together”?   |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  |   What is *ironic* about Nick’s use of “**effeminate**” in describing Tom in his riding clothes?   |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  |   What can we **infer** is Nick’s attitude toward Tom from this passage?   |  | | --- | |  |   **Cite** (2-3) examples of *diction* from the direct and indirect characterization of Tom.   |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | |