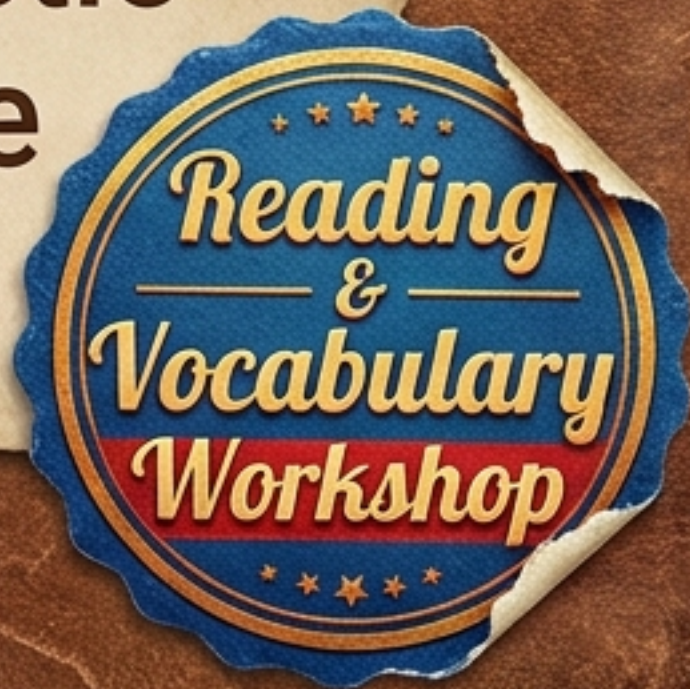




Midnight in Paris

A Cultural and Linguistic
Journey Through the
Lost Generation



- **The Protagonist:** Gil Pender, a disillusioned Hollywood screenwriter visiting modern-day Paris.



The Magic of the Midnight Bell

- **The Protagonist:** Gil Pender, a disillusioned Hollywood screenwriter visiting modern-day Paris.

- **The Conflict:** He loves the romantic past; his fiancée, Inez, loves the practical present.

- **The Magic:** Every night at midnight, a mysterious vintage car transports Gil back to the 1920s to meet his literary idols.



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A Moveable Feast: Mapping the Magic



Hotel Le Bristol
The luxurious modern-day base for Gil and Inez.



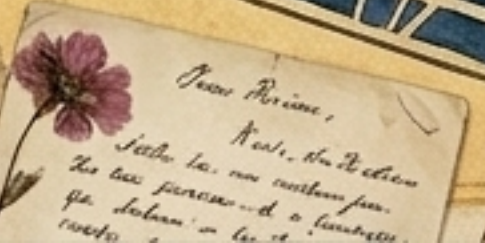
Cr merie-Restaurant Polidor
A historic dining room where Gil first meets Ernest Hemingway.



Maxim's
The lavish Belle  poque restaurant visited during a trip further back in time.



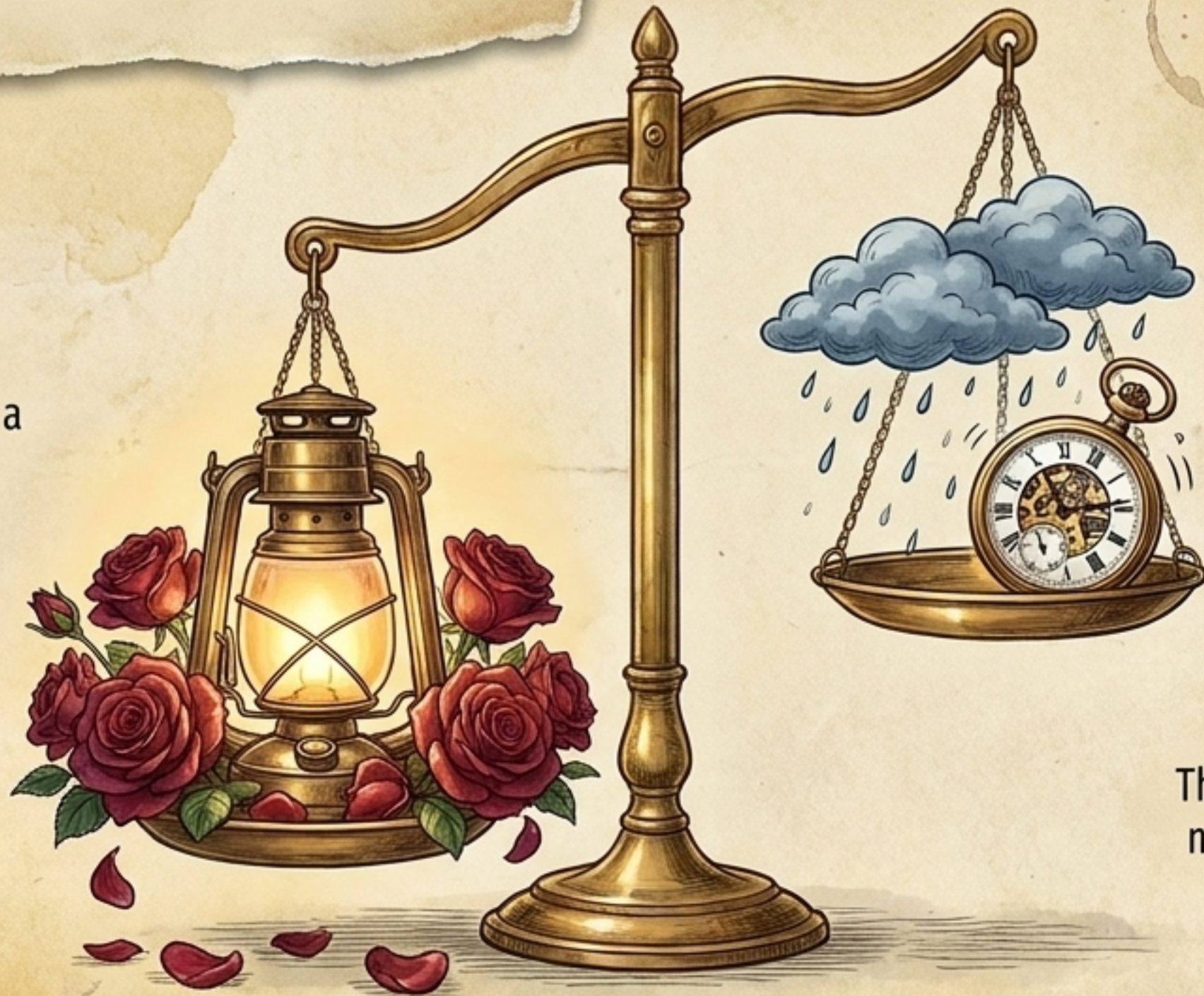
Rue Montagne Sainte-Genevi ve
The stone steps where Gil waits for the time-traveling car.



The Escapism Scale

Golden Age Thinking:

The romantic illusion that a different time period was perfectly happy and culturally superior.



Nostalgia (noun) –
A sentimental longing
for the past.
Described in the
story as denial of the
painful present.



The Painful Present:

The reality of facing daily struggles,
mortality, and modern boredom.

The Infinite Staircase of Nostalgia



Gil lives in the present but yearns to escape to the 1920s.

Adriana (Picasso's muse) lives in the 1920s but longs for the 1890s.

Artists like Paul Gauguin and Edgar Degas live in the Belle Époque but dream of the Renaissance.

All paradises are lost paradises.

Character Profile: The Macho Expatriate

1
Dark brown suede sport jacket
(rugged hunting attire).

2
White shirt with French cuffs
(worn casually without a tie).

3
Brown high-rise trousers
(with folded turn-ups at
the bottom).

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(with folded turn-ups at the
bottom).

“If you’re a writer, declare
yourself the best writer.”
– Hemingway



CAFÉ DE FLORE

1x Jack Rose Cocktail
(Applejack brandy, lemon
juice, grenadine)

Jake Barnes'
favorite drink!

CAFÉ RECEIPT

The Reel vs. The Real

The Artist

The Movie Representation

The Historical Reality

Salvador
Dalí



An eccentric surrealist who shouts about seeing a rhinoceros.

A highly theatrical artist who used psychoanalytical themes and melting clocks to shock society.

Zelda
Fitzgerald



Heavily accented, irrational, and suicidal over her husband Scott's affairs.

A prominent, spoiled Southern girl who tragically battled schizophrenia in clinics later in life.

Ernest
Hemingway



A hyper-aggressive, swaggering writer who rejects ties and presses for a fight.

A complex expatriate who often wore ties and berets, and struggled with his declining literary output.

Shattering the Golden Age Illusion

Gil's romantic fantasy begins to crack when he realizes the practical dangers of the past.

The Missing Elements of Utopia

- No antibiotics or modern medicine.
- The constant, unromantic threat of diseases like tuberculosis.
- A lack of modern comforts and social progress.



A perfect past is merely a fantasy.
"Utopia" literally translates from Greek to no place.

Embracing the Present



1 Leaving the Fantasy.

Gil leaves Adriana in the Belle Époque, realizing he cannot abandon his own timeline.

2 Facing the Truth.

He breaks his engagement with Inez after discovering her infidelity, ending a relationship based on conflicting values.

3 Finding Magic in the Now.

Gil meets Gabrielle, an antique dealer, while walking along the Seine. As it begins to rain, they bond over their mutual love for Paris in the present day.

Language Workshop: The Expatriate's Dictionary

Expatriate

A person who lives outside their native country (like the American writers living in Paris).

Illusion

A false idea or belief; a deceptive appearance.

Utopia

An imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect.

Disillusioned

Disappointed in someone or something that one discovers to be less good than one had believed.

Comprehension Check: True or False?

1. Gil Pender wants to abandon screenwriting to write a serious novel.

Vrai

Faux

2. Adriana believes the 1920s is the greatest era in human history.

Vrai

Faux

She longs for the 1890s Belle Époque.

3. Ernest Hemingway praises Gil's novel the moment he reads it.

Vrai

Faux

He refuses to read it out of professional jealousy.

4. Gil ultimately decides to stay in the 1920s forever.

Vrai

Faux

He returns to the present to embrace his real life.

Short Answer Reflection

POSTCARD

1. In your own words, explain the concept of “Golden Age Thinking.” Why does Paul believe it is dangerous?
2. Choose one real-life artist mentioned in this deck (Hemingway, Dalí, or Zelda Fitzgerald). How did their historical reality differ from their movie persona?



Use the vocabulary words from Slide 10 in your answers!



The past is not a safe refuge
from the travails of the present...
contentment and spiritual peace
are found inside you.

*Fin. (Keep exploring the
beauty of the present).*