

The Outsider (The Stranger) -- Camus

Written assignment for discussion and presentation

Directions: Write a paragraph of at least three to five sentences in response to each of the following in Parts A and B. Your topic sentence is forthright, the body concise and relevant, and the conclusion reasonable. Keep this page to turn in with the answers.

A. Part One

1. Describe Mersault's "love" relationship to Marie in Part One of the novel. What is your personal reaction to this relationship?
2. Describe the relationship between Salamono and his dog. How does Mersault feel about it and what is your reaction to it?
3. What sort of person is Raymond? why does Mersault write the letter for him?
4. Mersault turns down a promotion offer to move to Paris. Many people would be pleased by such an offer. Why do you think the offer lacks appeal for Mersault?
5. Why does Mersault go back down the beach after Raymond has the fight? why does he shoot the Arab the first time? After the Arab is shot, why do you think Mersault pumps additional bullets in the body?

B. Part Two

1. What is your analysis of the scene involving the crucifix between the magistrate and Mersault? p 68-7  
(111-0)
2. Why does Mersault have the impression that the faces in the courtroom are like faces on a tram? How does this impression fit his typical way of looking at the world? p 81  
(112-0)
3. Is it fair to connect Mersault's behavior at the funeral of his mother with the murder of the Arab? Explain your answer.
4. Explain why you think Mersault says that he realizes while in jail that one of the most important things he should have done in life was to attend executions. p 106  
(113-0)
5. In the scene between the chaplain and Mersault, Mersault says he sees Marie's face, if anyone's, in the configuration of the wall. what do you make of this scene and Mersault's comment about Marie's face? p 112-4  
(114-0)

- C. In the space below, compose on your own a thoughtful question about some aspect of this novel for which there is no apparent obvious answer and discuss it in an extensively developed paragraph of response. Be sure your answer to the question is well reasoned and evidenced with the text as always.