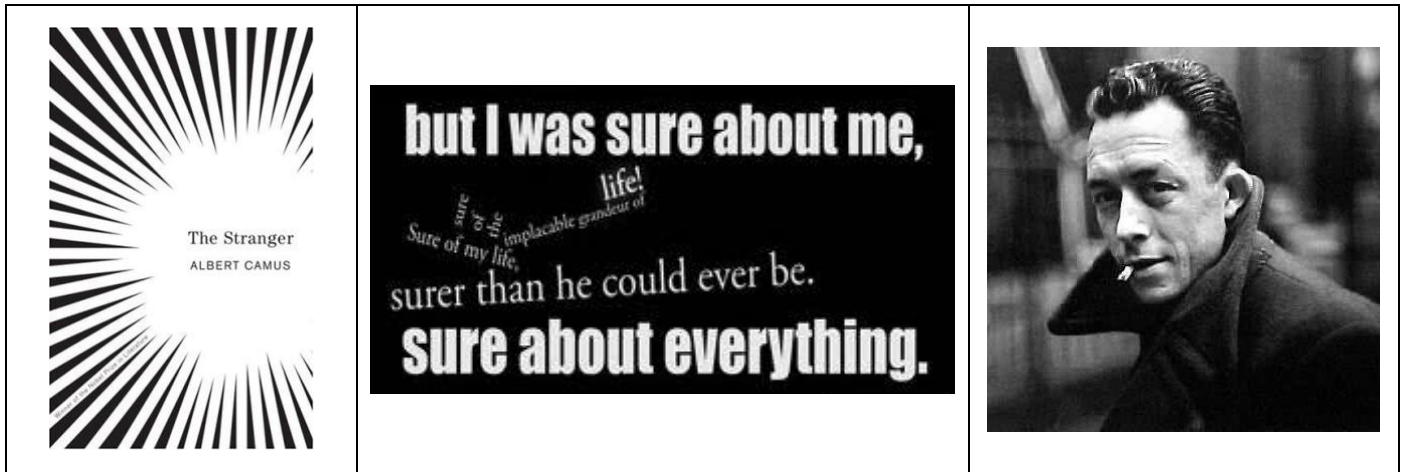


The Stranger – In class essay



Purpose

You will write a well-crafted essay, answering **one** of the given prompts surrounding either justice or exile, based on your reading of Albert Camus's *The Stranger*. **This writing will be done, in class, on the first day of class.** It should go without saying that appropriate formal essay structure, diction, and tone are a must.

The assignment is similar to the papers you have done in the past and mirrors the argumentation prompts given on the AP English Literature and Composition exam. This will test your ability to formulate and support a position based on your critical and analytical reading of the primary text in a clear and cohesive written format. This analysis must be grounded in specific and meaningful textual reference. Steer clear of simple plot summary; this is not your 3rd grade book report. A well-crafted essay will develop an argument, support that argument, and blend the proper balance of your written voice and command of the language, with the academic formality which a college-level paper requires. This essay will serve as your first major grade and is due at the end of the block on the first day of class.

Prompts

Choose **ONE** of the following prompts to guide the direction of your essay.

- 2010 AP® English Literature and Composition Free Response Question 3

“Palestinian American literary theorist and cultural critic Edward Said has written that ‘Exile is strangely compelling to think about but terrible to experience. It is the unhealable rift forced between a human being and a native place, between the self and its true home: its essential sadness can never be surmounted.’ Yet Said has also said that exile can become ‘a potent, even enriching’ experience.

After reading *The Stranger*, select a character from the novel who experiences such a rift and becomes cut off from “home,” whether that home is the character’s birthplace, family, homeland, or other special place. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the character’s experience with exile is both alienating and enriching, and how this experience illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.”

OR

- 2011 AP® English Literature and Composition Free Response Question 3

In a novel by William Styron, a father tells his son that life “is a search for justice.”

After reading *The Stranger*, choose a character from the novel who responds in some significant way to justice or injustice. Then write a well-developed essay in which you analyze the character’s understanding of justice, the degree to which the character’s search for justice is successful, and the significance of this search for the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

Assignment Details

- In-class writing on the reading will be on the first day of class, as previously mentioned. 60 minutes total.
- *The Stranger* must be acquired on your own (it is widely available online and used).
- Read the book over the summer; annotate the text, and be prepared to discuss.
- On an index card or a piece of paper, you must bring 10 quotes from the text that you think are important evidence in answering one of the prompts above. Carefully consider the selection of your evidence, since it will affect how you answer the question.
- No other notes will be allowed for the in-class writing. The notes must be on an index card or paper; no digital notes allowed.
- **Not doing the in-class writing will be possible grounds for being dropped from the class.**
- Assessment Criteria
 - Clarity of writing
 - Technical accuracy of writing
 - Depth of analysis
 - Seamless integration of textual support (direct micro-quoting) to support your argument
 - Answering the prompt...because A.P. stands for Answer the Prompt.

Contact Information

We are all excited about the upcoming school year, and we hope you are as well. Your abilities to communicate with the learning community – teachers included – is an important skill; please do not hesitate to contact all of us if you have questions or concerns about the assignment or the course.

Mr. Mark Ahn mahn@d211.org
Ms. Kelly Carroll kcarroll@d211.org
Ms. Heidi Davey hdavey@d211.org