

BA in English

Course Title: Restoration Literature

Course code: ENG 421

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Ans to the Question no. 02

Title: The Alienation of Meursault in "The Stranger" by Albert Camus

Introduction:

Albert Camus' novella "The Stranger" presents the grasping story of Meursault, a confined and unconcerned protagonist whose actions and perspective lead to his significant alienation from society. Through a convincing story and existential themes, Camus delves into the consequences of Meursault's indifference, featuring the mind-boggling nature of human life and the subsequent estrangement from societal norms. In this essay, we will investigate Meursault's excursion of alienation, looking at its origins, manifestations, and effect on his life.

The Origins of Alienation:

All along, Meursault is depicted as a person estranged from the conventions of society. His close to home separation is exemplified by his indifference with regard to his mother's demise, as he attends her burial service without expressing any ordinary signs of sorrow. This way of behaving becomes a point of convergence for Meursault's alienation, prompting his subsequent isolation

from his peers. In his failure to adjust to social norms and expectations, Meursault finds himself increasingly distanced from the local area around him.

Existential Themes and Alienation:

Camus explores existentialist themes all through "The Stranger," shedding light on the implications of Meursault's alienation. Meursault's aloofness reflects his acknowledgment of the absurdity and meaninglessness of life, as existentialist philosophy emphasizes the singular's a showdown with a uninterested and silly world. In Meursault's eyes, life is without any trace of intrinsic purpose, driving him to disengage himself genuinely from individuals and events surrounding him. This existential viewpoint deepens his alienation, as he perceives himself as an outsider inside the confines of a conformist society.

The Effect of Alienation:

Meursault's alienation has significant repercussions for both him and those around him. As he navigates the legal process following a wrongdoing he commits almost impassively, society further marginalizes and condemns him. The court scene serves as a perfection of Meursault's estrangement, where his indifference with regards to customary ethical quality seals his destiny. His refusal to lie or display remorse, in the eyes of the jury, confirms his responsibility and absence of sympathy, worsening his social isolation.

Conclusion:

"The Stranger" presents an interesting investigation of Meursault's alienation, mirroring the mind-boggling nature of human life and the consequences of challenging societal expectations. Camus proficiently portrays the protagonist's close to home separation and lack of interest, uncovering the inborn alienation that results from a dismissal of societal norms. Through Meursault's excursion, we are constrained to defy our own existential dilemmas, questioning the significance of human association and the effects of isolation. Albert Camus masterfully captures the essence of alienation in "The Stranger," helping us to remember the significance of sympathy, association, and our place inside society.