1. The quest for meaning in a brutal century

2. estrangement and alienation (depersonalizing influences of science and technology)

3. *Walden Two*

4. *Brave New World* (A.F. and *soma*)

5. existentialism and freedom (no social determinism --- humanity condemned to freedom --- “We are what we choose to be”)

6. Jean Paul Sartre --- “Hell is . . .”

7. a universe devoid of moral absolutes

8. Platonic idealism
9. existence precedes essence --- human beings have no fixed nature

10. anxiety in the face of nothingness --- “being/becoming” --- radical personal responsibility “the devil [did not] make me do it” --- “we are alone, with no excuses”

11. Christian existentialism --- God challenged human beings to act as free and responsible creatures

12. Soren Kierkegaard

13. Reinhold Niebuhr

14. Dietrich Bonhoeffer

15. Friedrich Nietzsche “God is Dead”

16. Albert Camus --- recognize your dignity as a human being”; “Choose and commit yourself to action [in the face of the absurd]”

17. existential hero in literature --- deprived of traditional values and religious beliefs, bears the burden of freedom and the total responsibility for his actions

19. One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest

20. Always Outnumbered, Always Outgunned

21. Death of a Salesman

22. Theatre of the absurd --- dramatic action, leavened with gallows humor, may consist of irrational and grotesque situations that remain unresolved at the end of the performance --- as is often the case with life

23. Waiting for Godot

24. Poetry at mid-century

25. The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock

26. Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night
27. Rabindranath Tagore

28. Muhammad Iqbal

29. Film at mid-century

30. film noir --- moral ambiguities between good and evil

31. *A Touch of Evil*

32. *The Seven Samurai*

33. *The Seventh Seal*

34. The Visual Arts at mid-century

35. Edward Hopper

36. Francis Bacon
37. Jackson Pollock

38. “turning their backs of bourgeois taste”

39. Sculpture --- *City Square* and *Bus Riders*

40. Architecture at mid-century --- the skyscraper