

Study Guide
Quest for Identity
Fiero, chapter 35

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

18. *Cool Hand Luke*

19. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's 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