QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

Make notes in English on the following topics, backing them up with quotes from the text in French, add Folio page numbers

Part 1

CHAPTER 1

1. Summarise Meursault’s attitude to his boss.
2. What are the main aspect M’s relationship to his mum?
3. Does M have friends? Explain
4. At different time in the chapter, M seems unwell – illustrate
5. Give examples of how M disrespects or misunderstands society’s rules and customs
6. Summarise the interaction with the concierge
7. How does M perceive old people?
8. What do we see of M’s attitude to death?
9. How does M perceive nature?
10. Comment on the style of writing and the narrator’s point of view

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Part 1

CHAPTER 2

1. Meursault is a character who is sensitive to his environment – give examples from this chapter.
2. Meursault is sensual – pick up examples of how sensitive he is to all senses (smell, touch, etc)
3. How does Meursault transgress society’s rules in this chapter?
4. What do we learn about Marie?
5. Describe how M lives in his flat. Comment on his way of life.
6. Who is Celeste?
7. Meursault is on his balcony. What does he do – give details? What’s the symbolic effect of this?
8. What is M looking at? Comment on the style of writing at this point.
9. What do you think of his typical Sunday? Comment on the closing lines of the chapter.

Don’t forget to use quotes in French!

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

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Part 1

CHAPTER 3

1. Describe M’s typical working day.
2. What do we learn about Celeste?
3. Who is Salamano? Describe his relationship to his dog and M’s reaction to it.
4. Who is Raymond Sintès? Describe his job, his character and what he has done.
5. What does he want M to do?
6. What is M reaction? What does it tell us about him?
7. Explain the passage about “un vrai copain” towards the end of the chapter
8. Why are these characters introduced, according to you?

Quotes in French, remember!

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

Make notes in English on the following topics, backing them up with quotes from the text in French, add Folio page numbers

Part 1

CHAPTER 4

1. At the start of the chapter, all elements are there for M’s perfect happiness. Choose some quotes.
2. What does Marie ask? How does M react? What do you think of this exchange?
3. Summarise the commotion at Raymond’s flat.
4. How do M and Marie react?
5. What does M do with Raymond after the police has gone?
6. What happens to Salamano?
7. Comment on the last few lines of the chapter.
8. Try and reflect on the development of M’s character in this chapter.

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

Make notes in English on the following topics, backing them up with quotes from the text in French, add Folio page numbers

Part 1

CHAPTER 5

1. What are the arrangements M makes with Raymond?
2. Summarise M’s conversation with his boss, using significant quotes.
3. Marie approaches M with another important question. Mention his reply and her reaction.
4. Through these exchanges, what transpires of M’s philosophy?
5. Marie refuses to have dinner with him – comment on what follows.
6. Any thoughts on the little woman who eats at his table?
7. Summarise M’s conversation with Salamano.
8. What do we learn from Salamano in the last paragraph?

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

Make notes in English on the following topics, backing them up with quotes from the text in French, add Folio page numbers

Part 1

CHAPTER 6

1. How is Meursault feeling at the start of his beach day? Track the evolution of how he feels in the chapter.
2. Describe Raymond’s interaction with M and Marie at the start of the chapter.
3. How does M feel with Masson?
4. Give examples of the elements of a perfect day for M in the chapter.
5. “Le soleil tombait” – find in this paragraph the first negative connotations of the chapter.

Create a summary of his perception of the sun and nature from now on.

1. Who do they meet at the beach? Describe the scene.
2. Describe the second confrontation by the rocks – and M’s reasoning.
3. From « C’était le même éclatement rouge” make notes of the description and role of the sun from M’s point of view.
4. What happens in the last paragraph? What explanation are we given?
5. What do you think of this event and of M now?

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

Make notes in English on the following topics, backing them up with quotes from the text in French, add Folio page numbers

Part 2

CHAPTER 3

1. What is the other big story in court at the time of M’s trial?
2. How are the journalists described?
3. How does M feel in court?
4. What does he say about the young journalist?
5. What does he observe about the lawyers?
6. Who are the witnesses?
7. What are the two specific questions M is asked after formalities – how does he react?
8. Summarise the statement made by the home director.
9. How does it make M feel?
10. What about the statement from the concierge/janitor?
11. What about that of Perez? What effect does it have?
12. What about Celeste? How does it make M feel?
13. What about Marie? What is the lawyers’ reaction?
14. What about Raymond? What effect does his statement have?
15. What is the conclusion of the lawyers at the end of the day?

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

Make notes in English on the following topics, backing them up with quotes from the text in French, add Folio page numbers

Part 2

CHAPTER 4

1. Summarise M’s thoughts in the first paragraph.
2. What is the procurator’s reasoning about the murder, according to M?
3. In this chapter some very strong words are used by the representative of society to describe M and to call for capital punishment – what are they?
4. M feels he has to respond – what do you think of his speech?
5. What do you think of the lawyer’s defense?
6. What is the sentence and how does M take it?
7. Do you think the outcome of the trial is right? What are your thoughts on capital punishment?

QUESTIONS ON L’ETRANGER

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Part 2

CHAPTER 5

1. Summarise his thoughts about escape in the first two paragraphs
2. Who is mentioned here for the first time? Discuss
3. What does M think about during the nights? And during the day?
4. In the paragraph starting “pendant tout le jour” make note of two quotes reflecting M’s attitude to dying.
5. Make notes about the priest’s visit. What does he say? Ask? What is M’s response?
6. Study carefully the paragraph starting “Alors, je ne sais pas pourquoi”, where M loses his temper. What is he so angry about? Use quotes.
7. In the final paragraph M finds peace. Summarise his thoughts.
8. What do you think about the end of the novel?