

The Stranger Reading Questions

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, answer all questions completely and thoughtfully.

Part I, Chapter 1

1. After Meursault arranged for his mother to live in a nursing home, why did he visit her so infrequently?
2. Why was it odd that Madam Meursault desired a religious burial?
3. Does Meursault give an explanation for wanting/not wanting to see the open casket? Why might someone respond in this way? In your opinion, is this normal behavior?
4. Where is the caretaker from? His age?
5. Describe Meursault's dream-like experience beginning on page 9. What is happening?
6. What is the purpose of holding a vigil? How long does it last?
7. What is Thomas Perez's relationship with Maman?
8. How do they reach the church? How long does it take? How is the casket transported?
9. What are three (3) of Meursault's last thoughts of the burial?

Part I, Chapter 2

1. Who does Meursault meet the day after his mother is buried?
2. On page 21, what hint is the reader given as to where Meursault lives?
3. What does Meursault choose to do on Sunday? What does this demonstrate about his character/personality?
4. What does Meursault mean when he says, "It occurred to me....really, nothing had changed."
(See last sentence on page 24 for clarification).