

Name _____

Date _____

Stranger: Part I, Chpt. 1

I. Vocabulary: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel. Also, be prepared to be quizzed on these words.

vigil: a watch, usually occurring at night

condolence: expression of sympathy

destitute: having no money or possessions; impoverished

gaunt: extremely thin

pallor: extreme paleness

II. Questions: answer the following questions while you read to check your comprehension.

1. How did Meursault, the narrator and protagonist, receive the news about his mother?
2. What is the news that he received?
3. Where was Maman living?
4. Meursault says, “[T]here is no way he was going to refuse me with an excuse like that.” What does this say about Meursault and his relationship with his boss?
5. Where does Meursault regularly eat?
6. What does Meursault do during his bus ride?
7. Meursault says, “I thought he was criticizing me for something.” What does Meursault feel he could have been criticized for?
8. How often did Meursault visit his mother?
9. What about the funeral arrangements come as a bit of a shock to Meursault?

10. What does Meursault ask the caretaker not to do?
11. What does Meursault notice about the Arab nurse?
12. What did Meursault want to make clear about the caretaker's position?
13. Meursault says he hesitated to have a smoke? Why? What does this say about him?
14. What does Meursault claim made him drowsy?
15. What ridiculous feeling did Meursault say he had when he saw the people sitting at the vigil?
16. When the old people left the mortuary what did they do that surprised Meursault?
17. What was the most difficult time of day for Meursault?
18. What reason does the director give for allowing Thomas Perez go to the funeral?
19. What does the nurse say?
20. How does Meursault describe the voice?
21. What meaning does Meursault take from what the nurse says?