

Albert Camus: *La peste*

Some ideas for you to consider with regard to this text :

- Camus suggests in the notebooks he kept while writing *La peste* that the major theme of this work should be that of *separation*. What do you think he means by this?
- Look at how Camus uses repetitive actions, habits and routines in *La peste*. Try to identify some of them and see what you think he manages to convey through them.
- What is Camus attempting to show in his presentation of the priest Paneloux ? What changes have taken place in the latter's position as expressed in both the first and the second of his sermons?
- What does Camus have to say about capital punishment? How important is this theme in *La peste* ?
- Think about the ways Camus stresses the importance of *neutrality* in *La peste*. How does he do this? And is he successful in his aim?