Life In Algeria And His So Called Algerian Essays; His Involvement In The Combat Resistance In WW2

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Algeria is one of the countries forming the Western part of North Africa. Arabic is the primary language, spoken by about 82% of the population. French is the second language, and many people also speak different Berber dialects. Islam is the original religion, with the majority of Algerians being Muslims. Christianity is the second religion.
Camus Life Growing Up In Algeria

- Born in Mondovi, Algeria 1913
- A year later his father died his mother raised him alone
- Impoverished and nearly deaf, so the two of them moved to Camus' grandmother's apartment in the Belcourt
- Camus was an excellent student and was very involved in school
- In 1930 recommenced his studies
- 1934-1936 Camus was married to Simone Hié
- 1934 Joined the communist party
- 1937 Published his first book
- 1940 Camus left Algiers for Paris, hoping to work as a reporter for the leftist press
Algeria’s Invasion
Timeline Important Events

1827 - France issued a 3 year blockade of Algiers as a result of the "fly whisk incident."

1830 - France made the decision to conquer Algeria completely and no longer temporary

1839 - Abd al Qadir one of the first to stand up for Algeria's Independence

1962 - Algeria gained independence from France
Camus Essay

- *Chroniques Algériennes*(Algerian Chronicles), 1939-1958, his political writings on Algeria
- Argued that Algeria should have the same rights as France; that Algeria is just like France
  - Led to both
    - His exile from Algeria in the 1940s
    - Then to his marginalization once Algerian rebels started their war for independence in November 1954.

“I must also condemn the blind terrorism that can be seen in the streets of Algiers, for example, which someday might strike my mother or family. I believe in justice, but I will defend my mother before justice” into catchphrases like “Between justice and my mother, I choose my mother”. - Albert Camus
Quotes from Essay

- “The simplifications of hatred and prejudice, which embitter and perpetuate the Algerian conflict, must be combated on a daily basis, and one man cannot do the job alone. What is required is a movement, a supportive press, and constant action.”
- “What does eternity matter to me? To lose the touch of flowers and women’s hands - that is the supreme separation!”

“In order to understand the world, one has to turn away from it on occasion.” - Albert Camus

If someone told me to write a book on morality, it would have a hundred pages and ninety-nine of them would be blank.

On the last page I would write, I recognize only one duty and that is to love.

And as far as everything else is concerned, I say no.

- Albert Camus
Camus’ Involvement In The Combat Resistance in WW2

- Camus was exiled
- During WWII, Camus joined the French resistance against the Nazis and published an underground newspaper called “Combat”
- Stance on the war infuriated many. He couldn’t imagine an independent Algeria
Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjDkXnOjnM
Questions
Question 1

In what ways is Camus’ essay *Algerian Chronicles* and his purpose for writing it ironic to his belief (existentialism) and style of writing?
In this essay he is fighting for justice and the Equality of Algeria to France, yet existentialist don't necessarily think life or anything is equal or fair, it's what you make of it.
In *The stranger* how can Meursault’s trial be compared or related to the situation that Algeria was in?
Meursault just like Algeria wasn't treated very fairly. He was put in trial for the “murder of someone” yet the whole case was built upon the fact that he had no emotions.
Works Cited