

Answer ONE question from the elective you have studied on pages 2–12

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Question Number

Write the question number in the space provided.

The cold war placed heavy emphasis on the concept of adversary; this statement reinforces the paranoia experienced by individuals after the destructive conclusion of World War II. But the ~~contextual~~ contextual anxiety stretched further into the postmodern literary movement, as composers heavily critiqued humanity's essence in a self-reflexive style, amounting to the challenge of the darkest sides of themselves; that the ~~them~~ only enemy at home was us. Texts in the time frame offer an escape for the individual ~~at~~ beyond this paranoia by ~~fragmenting~~ fragmenting constructs to humour & transformation, ~~as~~ exemplified in Samuel Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot', Sylvia Plath's 'Ariel', Ken Kesey's 'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest' and Matthew Weiner's 'Mad Men'.

Samuel Beckett's absurd play 'Waiting for Godot' features two men, Estragon and Vladimir, seemingly do nothing, waiting for ~~the~~ the ambiguous 'Godot' to fulfill purpose in their lives. The characters ~~the~~ continue in aimless dialogue to fill the time. The characters represent humanity's flawed of projecting problems externally, as at the start of the play, Estragon is shown trying to take off his boot to cure the ~~the~~ irritation of his foot. He concludes, "Nothing to be done." Estragon here acts as a representation of humanity's suffering with the ~~the~~ inability of introspection. The play continues as characters portray ~~the~~ the universality of humanity, and deconstruct it, as Vladimir looks ~~at~~ at the audience and refers them to "that bog". In this sense, Beckett elevates himself above the confinement of society.

Sylvia Plath similarly elevates herself above her context by challenging patriarchal institutions - "I am more pure than you or anyone."

Her life, however similar to that of Estragon and Vladimir's situation, is a psychological conflict between engagement and isolation.

'One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest' represents these ~~psychological~~ psychological and political extremes as McMurphy, a new patient of the mental institution battles the head of the asylum - The Big Nurse.