

Milestones of Existentialist Thought

Existentialism · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Which 19th-century philosopher is credited with being the first to use the term 'existential' in a modern philosophical context to describe his own thought?

- A) Søren Kierkegaard
- B) Friedrich Nietzsche
- C) Jean-Paul Sartre
- D) Martin Heidegger

2. Jean-Paul Sartre delivered a famous 1945 lecture that served as the primary manifesto for popularizing the movement; what is the title of this work?

- A) Being and Nothingness
- B) Existentialism Is a Humanism
- C) Nausea
- D) The Myth of Sisyphus

3. Which philosophical work, published in 1943 by Jean-Paul Sartre, introduced the foundational concepts of 'being-in-itself' and 'being-for-itself'?

- A) The Ethics of Ambiguity
- B) The Second Sex
- C) Being and Nothingness
- D) No Exit

4. Which Danish author is historically regarded as the 'father of existentialism' for his explorations of individual subjectivity and 'leaps of faith'?

- A) Albert Camus
- B) Søren Kierkegaard
- C) Arthur Schopenhauer
- D) Karl Jaspers

5. In 1942, Albert Camus published an essay that introduced the concept of the 'Absurd' as the conflict between the human search for meaning and the 'silent' universe; what was the title?

- A) The Rebel
- B) The Plague
- C) The Myth of Sisyphus
- D) The Stranger

6. Which landmark 1927 publication by Martin Heidegger attempted to define the fundamental 'question of Being' and introduced the concept of Dasein?

- A) Being and Time
- B) The Question Concerning Technology
- C) What Is Metaphysics?
- D) Pathmarks

7. Simone de Beauvoir's 1949 masterpiece is widely recognized as the first major existentialist analysis of gender; what is the title?

- A) The Mandarins
- B) She Came to Stay
- C) The Second Sex
- D) Force of Circumstance

8. Friedrich Nietzsche was the first to popularize which specific concept, later adopted by existentialists, regarding the absence of divine governance in human morality?

- A) The Ubermensch
- B) The Death of God
- C) Eternal Recurrence
- D) Will to Power