

	SCIENCE	RELIGION	PHILOSOPHY	ECONOMIC
Beckett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aftermath of the effects of science in the setting of a post-atomic wasteland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biblical allusions throughout. • Continual talk of the existence of Heaven and Hell. • Waiting for Godot – God? • Idea of being saved by a higher power. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nihilist thought of life serving no purpose, and having no meaning. • Existentialism thought – reality being something that is created. • Sense of absolute futility (Nothing to be done) • Agnostic belief of there being something bigger (Godot?) • Socialist theory of class structure. • The element of the unknown “they”. • The tree as a philosophical representation of the world healing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ownership of land by Pozzo. • Slavery – Pozzo and Lucky. • Poverty – Estragon & Vladimir. • Class structure is highlighted by the differences between the two groups. • The tree – as leaves sprout, life again has sustenance.
Hersey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science being the creator of The Bomb • Premise of the text is based on the effects of science. • Science as both destroyer and healer, the importance of medical science to heal the victims. • Fear of the unknown power of science. • Two characters to represent science in the medical field. • Stylistic device of the text that provides facts and figures of the ongoing testing of bombs around the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two of the main characters are religious – Father Kliensorge and Rev Tanimoto. • Miss Sasaki becomes a nun after turning to religion/faith as a reason to live. • Main emphasis on Christianity. • Definite divide between religion and science. • Faith saves the characters more than science does; faith strengthens them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The whole (nation) before the individual. • Effect of The Bomb on individual beliefs and ideology. • Philosophical conflict between religion and science. • The style of the text does not allow for the development of philosophical ideas, as it is a factual re-telling of the effects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical destruction of property, and the rebuilding. • Class structure shows divide between the characters, Mrs Nakamura and Dr Fuji. • Differences between the Capitalist West (USA) and Japan who was virtually bankrupt after WW2 • Poverty as part of the recovery process. • Money being poured into nuclear testing around the world.
Plath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allusion to the weaponry of war and genocide. • Repeated Holocaust imagery. • Lack of responsibility that man has shown with science. • Focus of the artificial or the man-made. • Direct references to the bombing of Japan in ‘Fever 103’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institution of marriage is questioned in several poems. • Lady Lazarus makes direct allusion to the biblical resurrection of Lazarus. She appropriates the story to her own survival. • Religious imagery throughout her poems refer to angels, God and salvation. • She places the self above God. • Suicide references allude to there not being an afterlife – she just doesn’t want to be in this life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feminist philosophy and the role of women in a male dominated world. • Nihilist existentialism – always looking for ways to die, as total detachment from the world around her. No purpose to her life. • Freudian issues about the detachment from a father figure, but the continual aspiration to please him. • Creation of the artifice of mankind. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “product” that is the female / wife / mother. • Women can be “owned” by the male society, or the expectations of motherhood / wifely duties. • Often compares herself to items that hold value – gold / precious stones etc. • Questioning of physical value.

