

Ch. 15 sec 1 Postwar Uncertainty

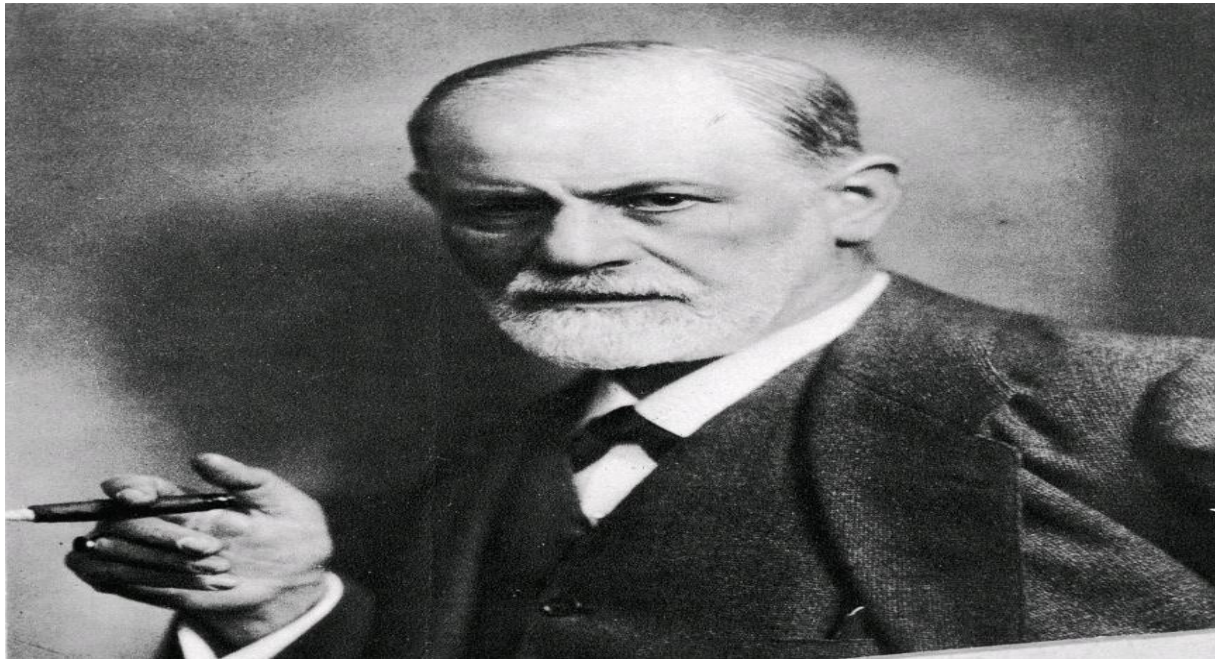
Scientific developments challenged old beliefs, women demanded more rights and young people adopted new values.



I. A New Revolution in Science

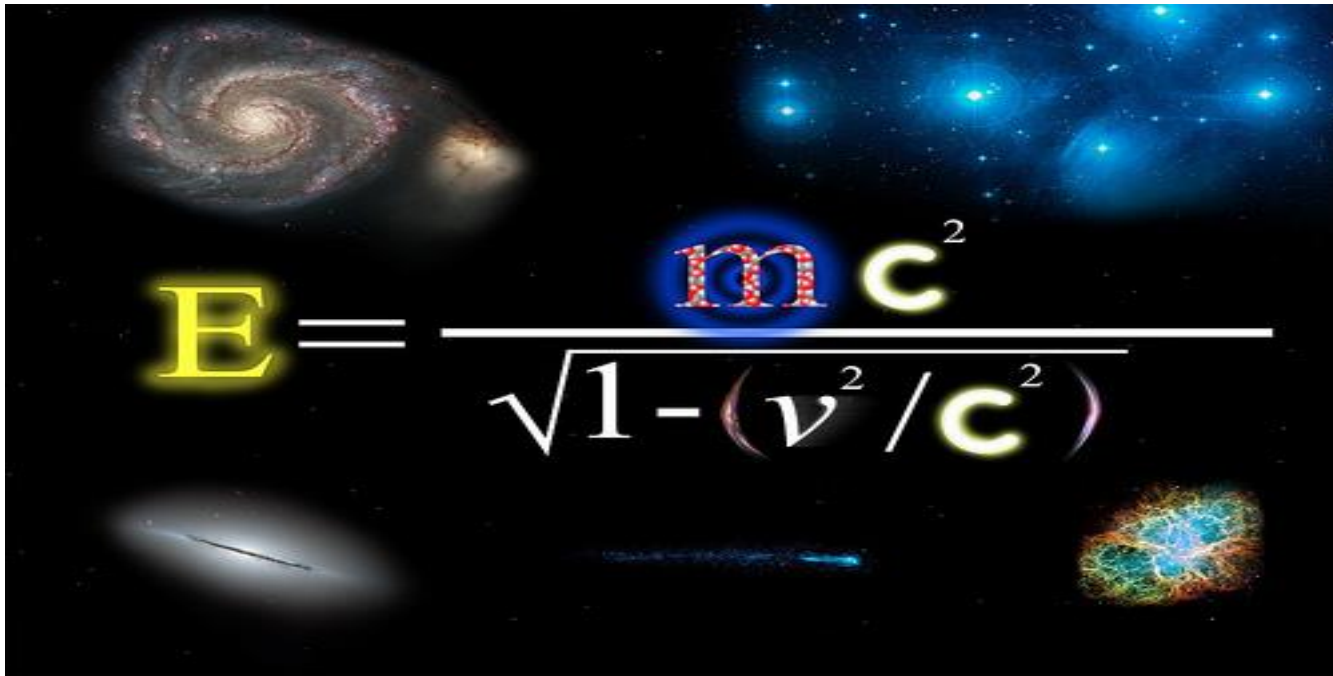
A. Impact of Einstein's Theory of Relativity

1. Albert Einstein and Sigmund Freud had an enormous impact in the early 20th century
2. **Albert Einstein**- offered new ideas on space, time, energy, and matter
3. 1905 Einstein developed the idea of the theory of relativity



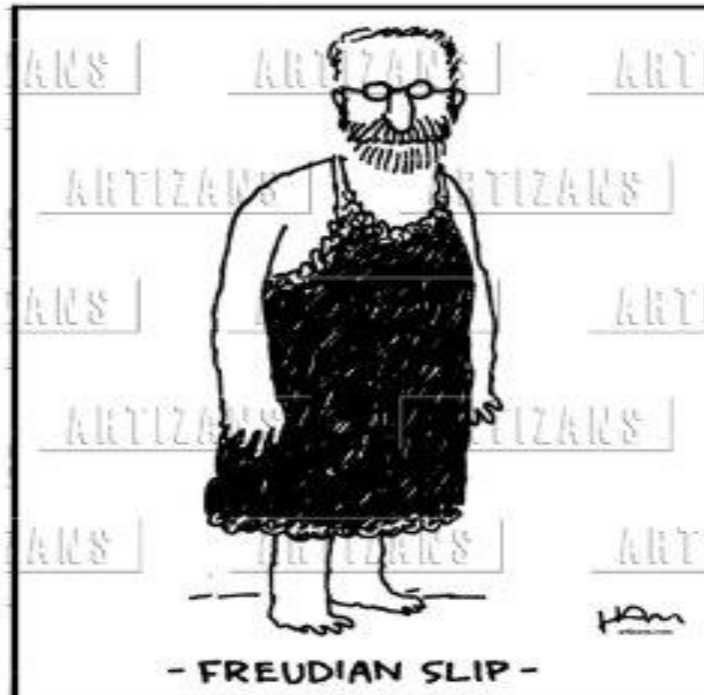
A. Impact of Einstein's Theory of Relativity

4. The theory of relativity revolved around space and time which can change when measured to an object moving near the speed of light.
5. This Challenged Newton's comforting belief of a world operating according to absolute laws of motion and gravity



B. Influence of Freudian Psychology

1. Sigmund Freud believed that much of human behavior is irrational, or beyond reason
2. In the unconscious mind there are a number of forces causing people to make irrational decisions such as pleasure seeking which the conscious mind is unaware



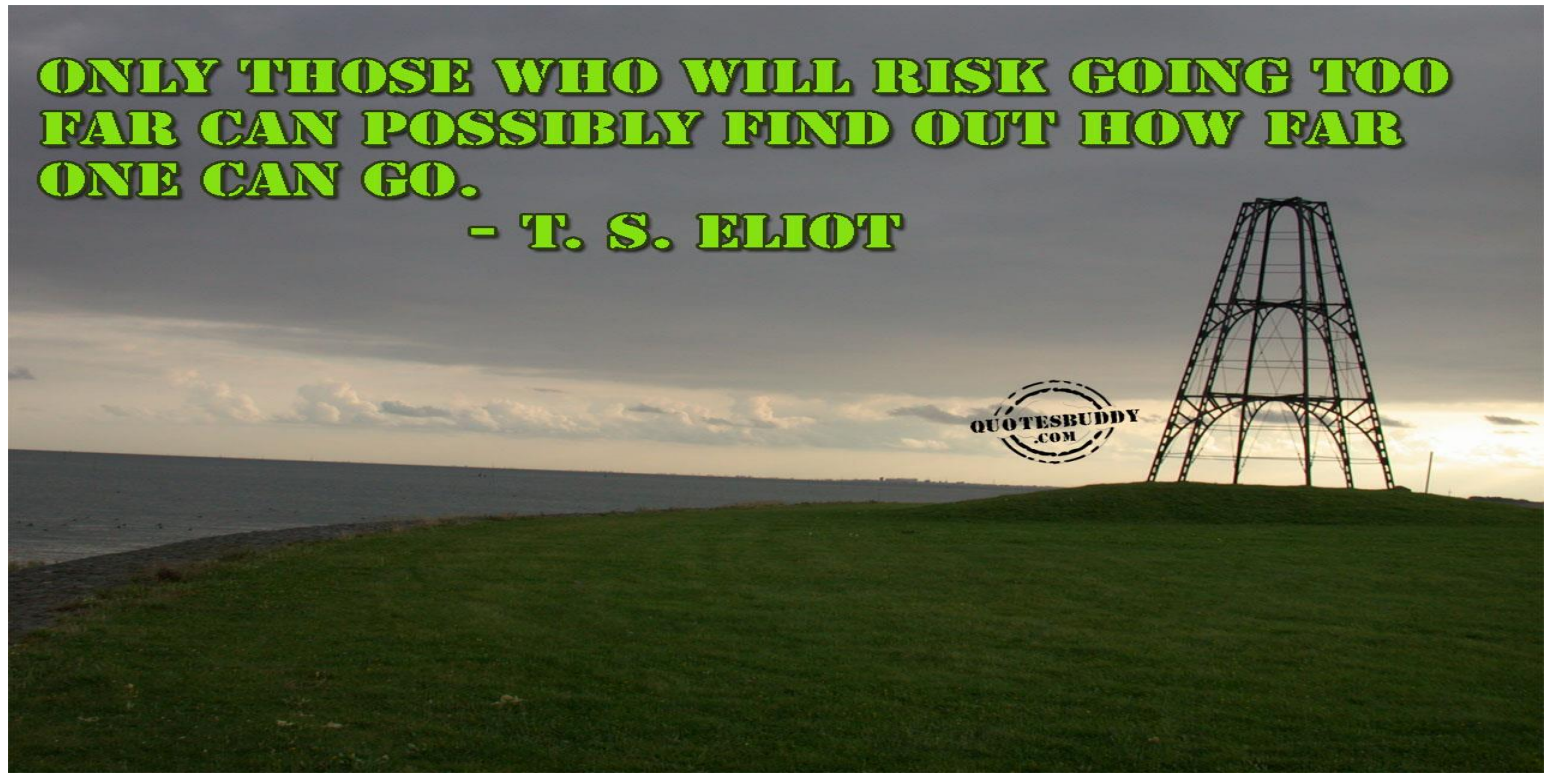
II. Literature in the 1920's

A. Disillusionment

1. After WWI writers expressed their anxieties of the future by creating disturbing visions of the present & the future
2. T.S. Elliot described the postwar world as a barren “wasteland” drained of hope and faith

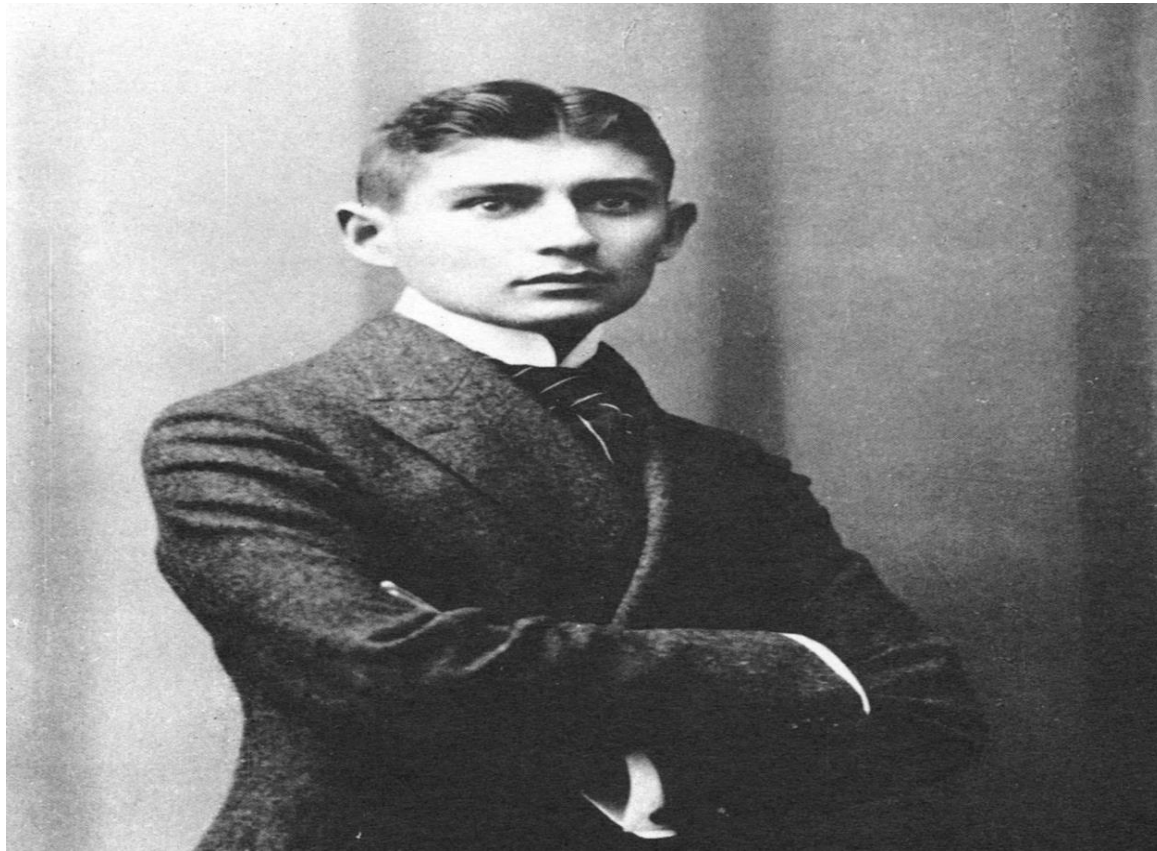
ONLY THOSE WHO WILL RISK GOING TOO FAR CAN POSSIBLY FIND OUT HOW FAR ONE CAN GO.

- T. S. ELIOT



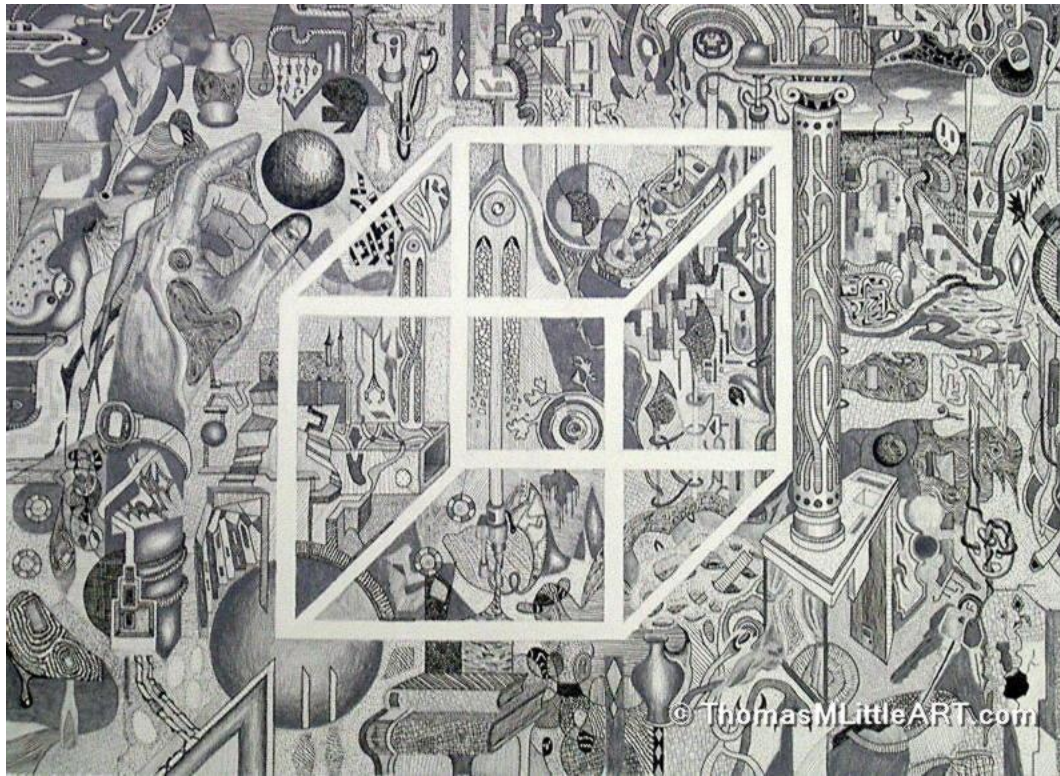
B. Writers Reflect Society's Concerns

1. Czech born author Franz Kafka wrote eerie novels that featured people caught in threatening situations out of their control with no escape possible



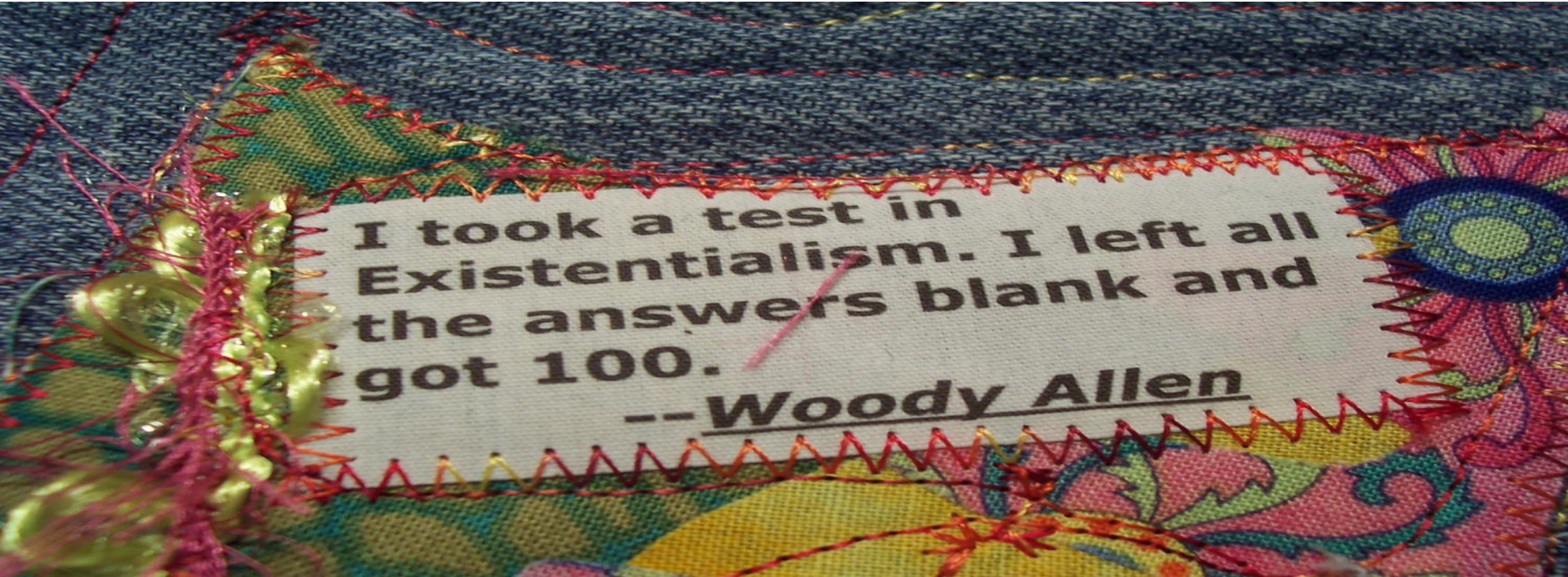
B. Writers Reflect Society's Concerns

2. James Joyce wrote a novel that gained popularity because of a unique style called stream of consciousness (modeled after one of Freud's theories) which was a bold attempt to mirror the workings of the human mind



C. Thinkers React to Uncertainties

- Writers turned to a movement lead by philosopher Jean Paul Sartre of France called existentialism
- **Existentialism**- is the belief that there is no universal meaning to life; each person creates their own meaning in life through choices made and actions taken

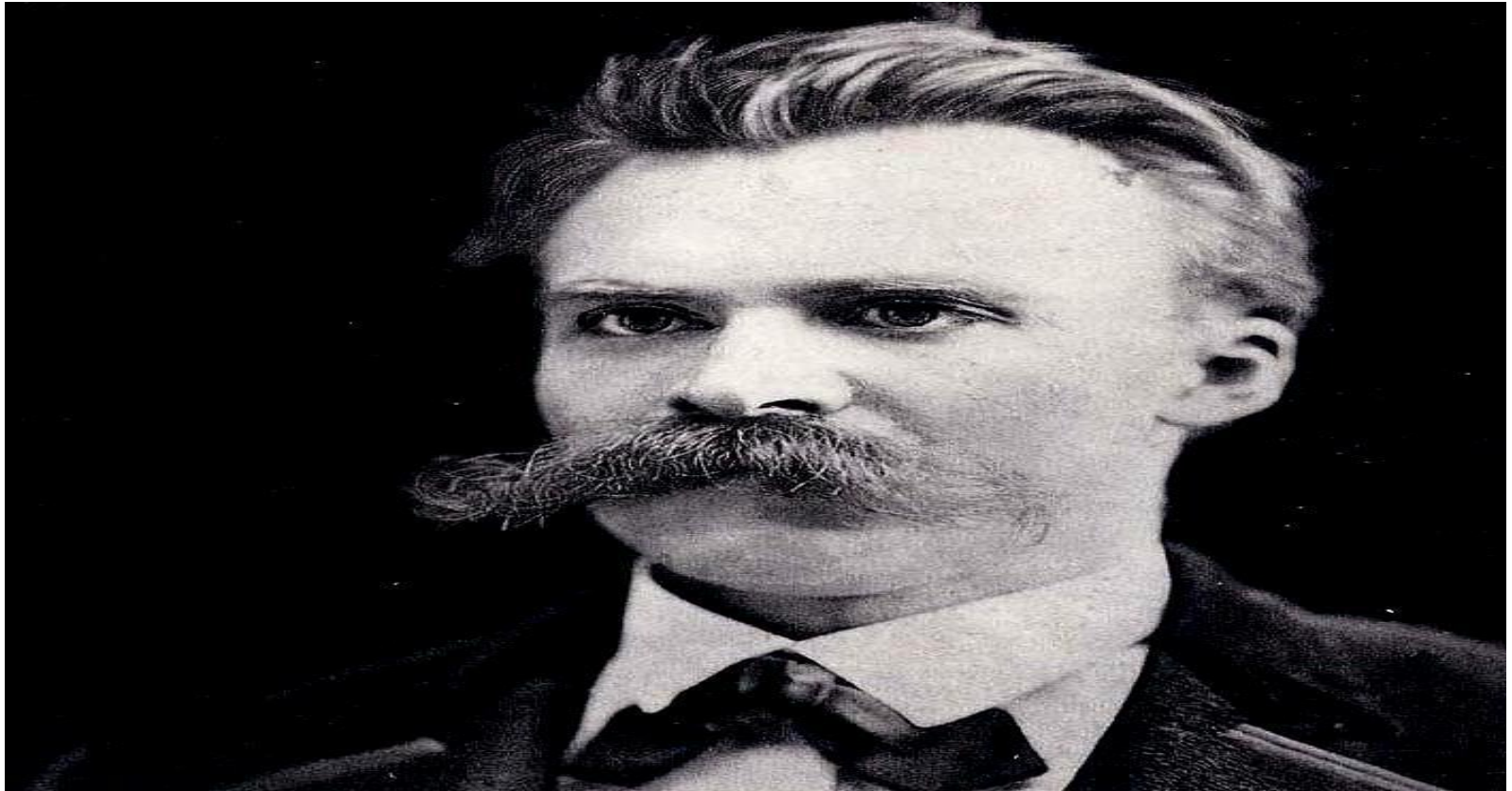


I took a test in
Existentialism. I left all
the answers blank and
got 100.

--Woody Allen

C. Thinkers React to Uncertainties

3. Friedrich Nietzsche was a major influence of this ideal as he believed that Western ideas such as reason, democracy, and progress stifled people's creativity and actions



C. Thinkers React to Uncertainties

4. Friedrich urged a return to ancient heroic values of pride, assertiveness, and strength; which would impact politics in Italy and Germany in the 20's & 30's



III. Revolution in the Arts

A. Artists Rebel Against Tradition

1. Artists wanted to depict the inner world of emotion and imagination rather than show realistic representations of objects like Paul Klee and Wassily Kandinsky



A. Artists Rebel Against Tradition

2. Georges Braque of France and Pablo Picasso of Spain founded Cubism in 1907 from traditional African art
3. Cubism transformed natural shapes into geometric forms with sharp angles and edges



A. Artists Rebel Against Tradition

4. **Surrealism** an art movement linked the world of dreams with real life which was inspired by Freud's ideas; surreal means "beyond or above reality"



B. Composers Try New Styles

1. In classical Russian composer Igor Stravinsky used harsh combinations of sound



B. Composers Try New Styles

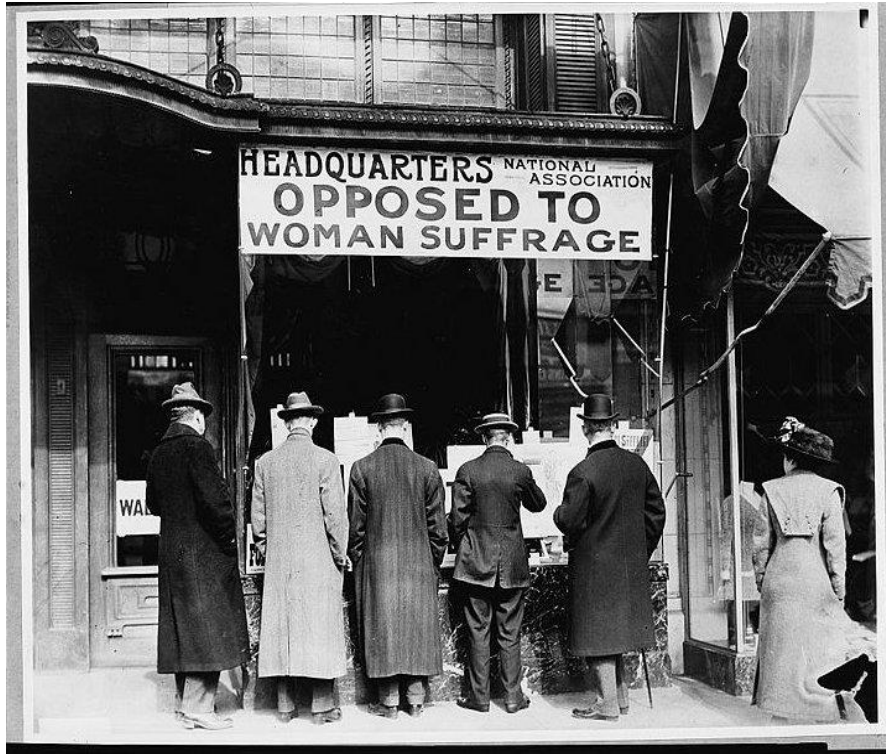
2. **Jazz** emerged in the U.S. and became extremely popular; developed mainly by African-Americans in New Orleans, Memphis, and Chicago
3. The lively, loose beat of jazz seemed to capture the new freedom of the age in the U.S. and Europe



IV. Society Challenges Convention

A. Women's Roles Changes

1. Young people broke from tradition and experimented with modern values
2. Women's suffrage became law in many countries (U.S. Britain Germany)



A. Women's Roles Changes

2. Women “bobbed” their hair, wore shorter close, and looser clothes
3. Women also began to drive, drink and smoke in public



A. Women's Roles Changes

5. Margaret Sanger & Emma Goldman promoted birth control

