

THE PLAGUE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How does the mayor's position resemble that of certain American politicians today?**
- 2. What parallels do you see between what happens in Oran initially and what happened in the early days of the pandemic in the US?**
- 3. Why does Rambert want to leave? Why does he stay?**
- 4. What motivates and sustains Dr. Rieux?**
- 5. Dr. Rieux's friend Tarrou encourages him to engage in self-care. Can we afford self-care in a pandemic?**
- 6. What links does Camus make between authoritarian fascism and plague?**
- 7. Would you personally take the risks accepted by Dr. Rieux and continued a daily work schedule despite being surrounded by disease, misery, and death?**
- 8. Do you think the COVID-19 pandemic showed us our common humanity? Why or why not?**
- 9. The Plague by and large ignores structural inequalities and racism that have produced differential impact and outcomes in today's pandemic. What do you think is missing in Camus' analysis?**
- 10. What are the lessons we can learn from The Plague?**