Yixuan Huang

Based on Sartre’s essay, one important idea is that I think; therefore I exist, and after reading the whole assay, I would describe existentialism as an attempt to try to draw the consequences when we from the perspective of atheistic position. However, existentialism is not so atheistic, instead, it would more like to prove that no matter God exist or not, that would change nothing. Existentialism wants to tell us that the people themselves make them exist, and the person is responsible for not only himself but also for all men.

I think that there is an inconsistency in the essay. When he gave an example about one of his students. In this example, Sartre seemed to emphasize what the consequence was for the student making different decision between stay with his mother or join in the Free French Force. However, he did not consider what influences would have to other people since Sartre mentioned before that man is responsible for not only himself but also for all men. And this statement is what I want to argue if I have chance: why the man should also be responsible for all men. Even though Sartre gave his explanation that our responsibility is much greater than we might have supposed, because it involves all mankind(p. 293). But how? What if nobody cares me and my behaviors? So that is the inconsistency I think in his assay.