Samuel Beckett, 1906-89
-Critic, playwright,
-Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1969.
-He wrote in both French and English and is perhaps best known for his
plays, especially En attendant Godot (1952; Waiting for Godot).

What influences on Beckett’s writing do you perceive?
-Influences: Dante, Descartes, Joyce.

What are Beckett’s main concerns?
The widespread idea, fostered by the popular press, that Beckett’s
work is concerned primarily with the sordid side of human
existence, with tramps and with cripples who inhabit trashcans, is a
fundamental misconception.

He dealt with human beings in such extreme situations not because he was
interested in the sordid and diseased aspects of life but because he concentrated
on the essential aspects of human experience.