



The Quest for Ayn

Decide for yourself: Who was Ayn
Rand and how has she influenced our
world?

Introduction to the Web Quest

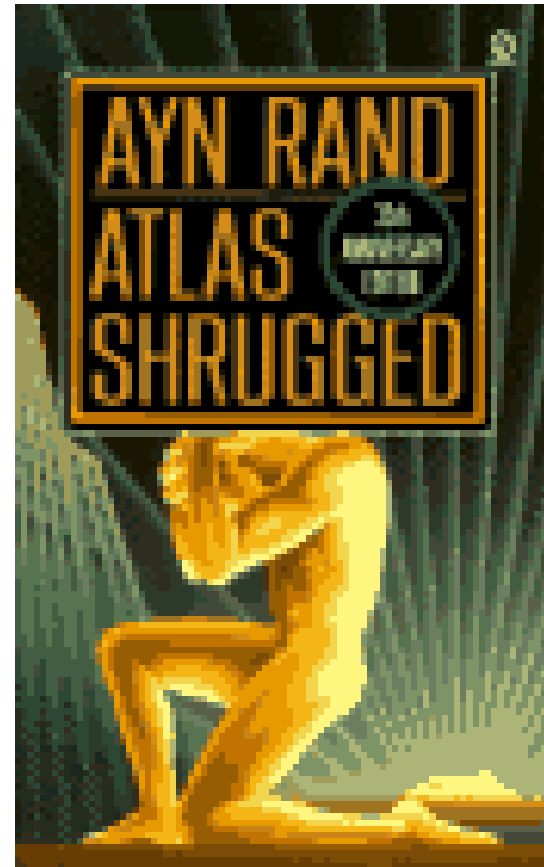
This is an activity of guided inquiry in which you will use:

- Internet Resources
- Newsgroups
- Offline Books

to aid you in a search for the lasting influences of Ayn Rand's philosophy's.

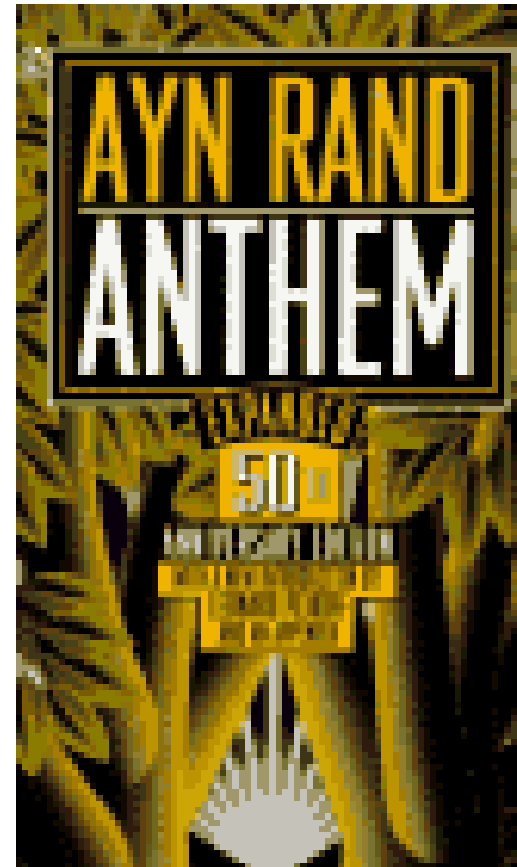
Introduction con't

- As Ayn would have it, this is your quest for your own understanding of her writings.
- Use the provided sites in this presentation only as an entry point into her world.



Task

- You will be required to prepare your own PowerPoint presentation based on questions posed in the next slides.
- There are no right or wrong answers.



Questions



- The following pages have a series of questions which you are to answer only after you have engaged yourself with several web pages and chat rooms. These are to be YOUR thoughts.

Questions

- **Art and Culture:** What does Rand feel is the epistemological purpose of art in an individual's life?
- **Sociology:** What were Rand's contributions to the feminist movement?
- **Politics:** Which political party can you see Rand playing a major part in? And which can you see Rand abhorring?

Questions

- **History:** What Russian event influenced Rand's writings?
- **Literature:** Who were Rand's contemporaries and what were they writing about?
- **Education:** How would Rand view the state of our public schools and what changes would she suggest?

Questions

- **Business:** How would Rand view the antitrust case against the big companies?
- **Society:** What are the major points you feel Rand is trying to tell her readers throughout most of her writings?
- **Philosophy:** Describe what Objectivism is.

Resources on the WWW

Views from Special Interest Groups

- <http://businessphilosophy.com/business/AynRandbusiness/mobydick.html>
- <http://www.aynrandstudies.com/jars/index.html>
- <http://www.california.com/~rpcman/QUOTES.HTM#shermer>
- <http://lfcity.com/gPages/gNetizen.html>
- <http://www.nyu.edu/projects/sciabarra/femstart.htm>

General Rand Sites

- <http://maple.lemoyne.edu/~kagan/randmk96.htm>
- <http://www.aynrand.org/>
- <http://www.omega23.com/books/s5/s11i06aynrand.html>

Resources on the WWW

Rand's Personal Life

- <http://members.aol.com/tgoldberg/chrono.htm>
- <http://www.vix.com/pub/objectivism/Writing/RandBiography.html>

Go Here to Buy Books

- http://www.erraticimpact.com/~feminism/html/women_rand_ayn.htm
- <http://info.greenwood.com/books/0313303/0313303215.html>

Helpful Hints

- Each questions should be covered in no more than three slides
- You may propose alternate views to some questions
- Be creative.

Example: For Rand's contemporaries you could draw a chart identifying various people or genres.

Evaluation

You will be evaluated on:

- The originality of your thoughts
- The organization of your content
- The completion of your answers to each question
- The aesthetic value of your presentation

Conclusion

By the end of this lesson you should

- Have an understanding of the time period from which Rand was a product
- Understand how the time and environment we live in effects our outlook
- Begin to grasp the ideas of liberalism, objectivism, metaphysics, capitalism and egoism
- Be able to construct your own opinion, using various resources
- Use the web as a tool for the collection and sharing of information

Conclusion

- Understand the process of evolution a writer goes thru as his-her work and thoughts mature
- Compare the philosophy of Rand to some of her contemporaries that were writing in other places or about other ideas