

Jean Anouilh: *L a    v a l s e    d e s    t o r é a d o r s*

*SOME    ESSAY    TOPICS*

- i        "The General believes he is fleeing his wife; he cannot, will not accept that it is himself he is trying to flee."
- Discuss*
- ii       "The confrontations between characters in Anouilh's plays that are most brilliantly and memorably handled are those in which sincerity and purity are humiliated."
- Discuss what you see as the best scenes in La valse des toréadors from this point of view.*
- iii      "In some of Anouilh's best plays, there is a deliberate combination of hackneyed plot, stock characters, jaded conventions and situations, with a serious concern for moral and even metaphysical matters not usually treated in such forms."
- Discuss La valse des toréadors from the point of view offered by this opinion.*
- iv       "Farce is a merciful medium — it makes desolate ideas funny."
- What are the desolate ideas that Anouilh dramatizes in La valse des toréadors?    How are they made funny?*
- v        some other topic, to be discussed and arranged in advance with me.

*Length:*    about 1000 words

*Language:* English

*Deadline:* Friday 30 October 1987 at 5 o'clock p.m.

I remind you that I am available to talk about topics, bright ideas, difficulties, etc., at any time during the reading or writing.

Reasonable requests for extensions will be reasonably entertained.

James Grieve  
18 September