Close Reading Questions

Into the Burning Sun

1. In the chronology of the story, when do the events of Scene 1 take place? Why might the playwright have chosen to start the play this way? (text structure)

2. In Scene 4, Icarus has a mechanical toy bird. What is the significance of this toy? (structure)

3. To be reckless is to do something without thinking or caring about the possible negative consequences of your action. In what way is Icarus reckless? (character)

4. How are the gods portrayed in the story? (characterization)
Critical-Thinking Questions

*Into the Burning Sun*

1. Based on what happens to Icarus, what big idea or message do you think the myth conveys?

2. Answer the question in the caption on page 14: Do you think Daedalus and Icarus deserved their fate?

3. A tyrant is a ruler who has complete power and who uses that power in a way that is cruel and unfair. On page 13, Daedalus calls Minos a tyrant. Is this a fair description?