- Since there is no God to determine human essence, Man has to choose his own course of action and shape his future. His subjectivity is prior to any other object. Sartre says, "subjectivity must be our point of departure".
- The difference between subject and object is explained through the difference between the phrases being-for-itself and being-in-itself. While being-for-itself is active, conscious, and free and essence-less, standing for the definition of man, being-in-itself is non-conscious, passive and solid that needs the interference of man to get meaning.
- Sartre assigns man more dignity over any other material stuff. It insists on the active existence of man whose essence is not given but chosen through his self undertaken projects.
- The doctrine existence precedes essence, presents an active and engaged philosophy of man.



## 12.9 FURTHER READINGS

1. Cox, G. (2006). *Sartre: A Guide for the Perplexed.* New York: Continum.
2. Sartre, J. P. (2007). *Existentialism is a Humanism.* (C. Macomber, Trans.) London: Yale University Press.
3. Sartre, J. P. (1992). *Being and Nothingness: An Essay on Phenomenological Ontology* . New York: Washington Square Press

## 12.10 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

**Ans.to Q. No. 1:** France

**Ans.to Q. No. 2:** Theistic and Atheistic Existentialism

**Ans.to Q. No. 3:**

a) Unconscious

b) Active

c) Being-for-itself