**Item #5: Kafkaesque**

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**Category: Literature**

**What I Already Know About This Item:**

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**(For this slide you should be writing down 3 things: name of allusion, background information, how it is used today.)**

Franz Kafka (1883-1924) was a Czech, German-speaking writer, whose works often dealt with surreal, anxiety producing situations. For example, in *The* *Metamorphosis*, the main character awakens to discover that he has been transformed into a giant cockroach.

The adjective “Kafkaesque,” refers to a situation or experience that is *bizarre, surreal, or anxiety-producing*.

**(For this slide you should be writing down 2 things: 1 given example and 1 original example.)**

**Examples:** (copy ONE)

**At the amusement park, we walked across a platform that was completely stationary, but the circular walls were rotating around the platform. This produced a Kafkaesque feeling that I was falling, and I had to close my eyes in order to walk steadily across the platform.**

**When we traveled to Greece last summer, it was Kafkaesque not being able to read any of the signs on the road or even to recognize the alphabet in which they were written.**

**My Own Original Example:** (write ONE)