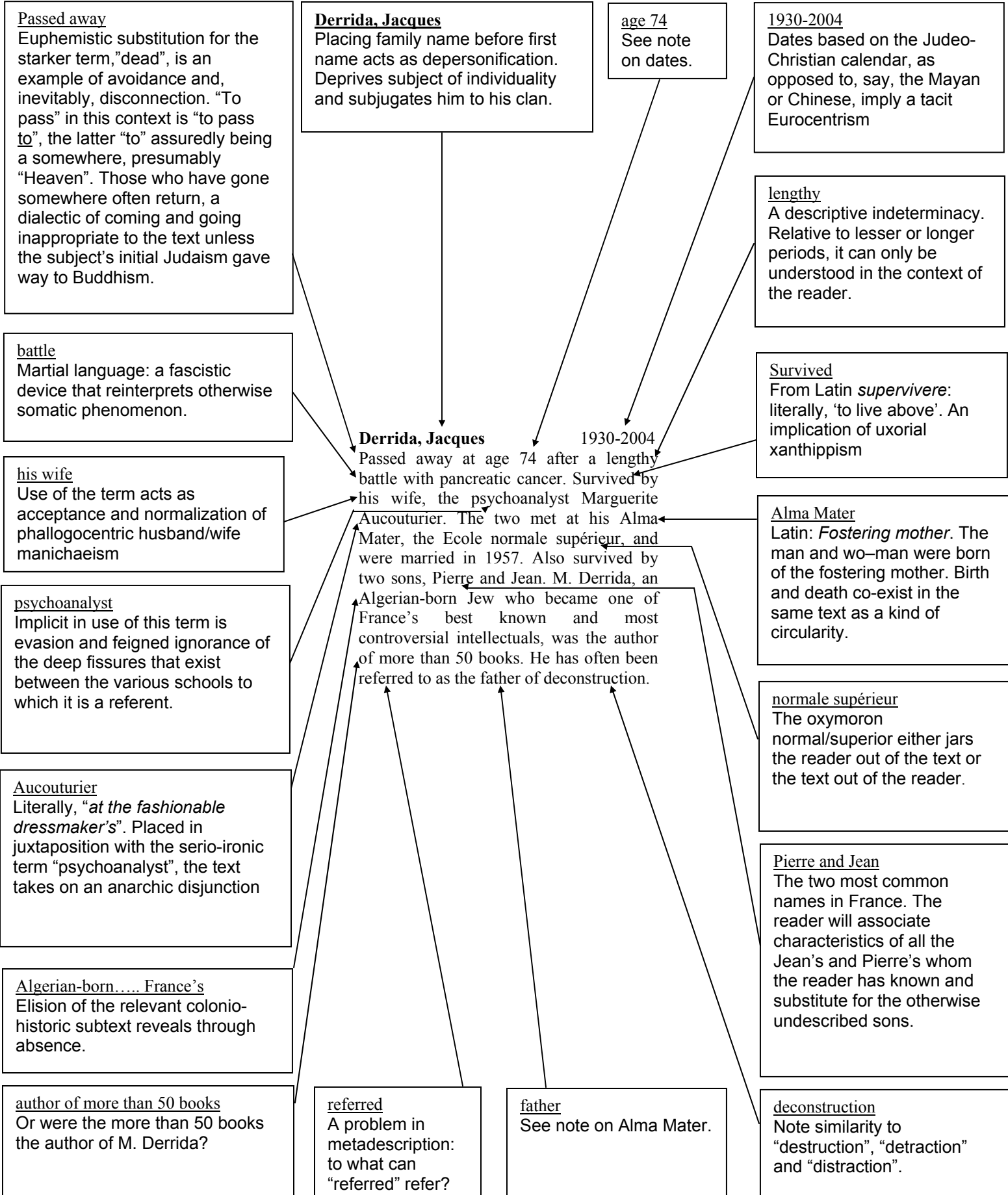


DERRIDA OBITUARY DECONSTRUCTED



Passed away
 Euphemistic substitution for the starker term, "dead", is an example of avoidance and, inevitably, disconnection. "To pass" in this context is "to pass to", the latter "to" assuredly being a somewhere, presumably "Heaven". Those who have gone somewhere often return, a dialectic of coming and going inappropriate to the text unless the subject's initial Judaism gave way to Buddhism.

Derrida, Jacques
 Placing family name before first name acts as depersonification. Deprives subject of individuality and subjugates him to his clan.

age 74
 See note on dates.

1930-2004
 Dates based on the Judeo-Christian calendar, as opposed to, say, the Mayan or Chinese, imply a tacit Eurocentrism

lengthy
 A descriptive indeterminacy. Relative to lesser or longer periods, it can only be understood in the context of the reader.

battle
 Martial language: a fascistic device that reinterprets otherwise somatic phenomenon.

Survived
 From Latin *supervivere*: literally, 'to live above'. An implication of uxorial xanthippism

his wife
 Use of the term acts as acceptance and normalization of phallogocentric husband/wife manichaeism

Derrida, Jacques
 Passed away at age 74 after a lengthy battle with pancreatic cancer. Survived by his wife, the psychoanalyst Marguerite Aucouturier. The two met at his Alma Mater, the Ecole normale supérieure, and were married in 1957. Also survived by two sons, Pierre and Jean. M. Derrida, an Algerian-born Jew who became one of France's best known and most controversial intellectuals, was the author of more than 50 books. He has often been referred to as the father of deconstruction.

Alma Mater
 Latin: *Fostering mother*. The man and woman were born of the fostering mother. Birth and death co-exist in the same text as a kind of circularity.

psychoanalyst
 Implicit in use of this term is evasion and feigned ignorance of the deep fissures that exist between the various schools to which it is a referent.

normale supérieure
 The oxymoron normal/superior either jars the reader out of the text or the text out of the reader.

Aucouturier
 Literally, "at the fashionable dressmaker's". Placed in juxtaposition with the serio-ironic term "psychoanalyst", the text takes on an anarchic disjunction

Pierre and Jean
 The two most common names in France. The reader will associate characteristics of all the Jean's and Pierre's whom the reader has known and substitute for the otherwise undescribed sons.

Algerian-born.... France's
 Elision of the relevant colonio-historic subtext reveals through absence.

author of more than 50 books
 Or were the more than 50 books the author of M. Derrida?

referred
 A problem in metadescription: to what can "referred" refer?

father
 See note on Alma Mater.

deconstruction
 Note similarity to "destruction", "detraction" and "distraction".