Maurice Merleau-Ponty was born on March 14, 1908, in Rochefort-sur-Mer, France. As with many of his generation, Merleau-Ponty lost his father to the war. Merleau-Ponty, Part 1/2 - YouTube Maurice Merleau-Ponty was born on March 14, 1908, in Rochefort-sur-Mer, France. As with many of his generation, Merleau-Ponty lost his father to the war.