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AFE 122 ASSIGNMENT

Attempt an incisive interrogation of Solomon A. Edebor`s Good Morning, Sodom, underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.

1. Theme of anti-social vices

It refers to the negative behaviors that harm the society, such as drug abuse, alcoholism, gambling, stealing, lying and violence. It often leads to social isolation, emotional distress, financial ruin, and health problems. It causes a negative effect on families, friends and the society at large. It warning against the dangers of succumbing to enticing but destructive anti-social behavior. Demola and his friends joined a cult (unlawful society) which was against social behavior and was later expelled for it. Demola for one never got the chance to repent because he died early during a cult shoot-out. The ‘Red Shadow’ cult was one of the cults in Mayflower University who had a rivalry with ‘The Sparrows’ cult and caused a lot of students to die.

2. Theme of bad peer influence

This theme mainly portrays bad peer pressure as one of the causes of young people getting involved in negative behaviors like drugs, alcohols, smoking and other criminal activities. It emphasizes the negative effects of keeping bad company and highlights the need for parents to be vigilant in identifying bad peer influences. It stresses the critical role of socializing factors in shaping positive behaviors and healthy social environment for young people to thrive. Demola was influenced by his friends K.K and Bentol to do several atrocities like lying to his parents so he can leave the hostel for accommodation outside, introduced him to drugs, encouraged Demola so he could rape Keziah and strategized how to carry out all sorts

of dubious acts. He was also influenced to join the cult which led to his demise.

3. Theme of inadequate parental supervision and guidance

The theme refers to the idea that some parents are incapable or unwilling to provide their children with the necessary guidance, support, and attention they need to thrive. This can lead to negative outcomes for the children, such as delinquency etc. It highlights the importance of strong and nurturing parenting in a child's development, and the negative consequences that can occur due to inadequacy. Keziah and Demola were children who did not receive enough parental care which caused Demola to go astray and join bad friends while also lying to his parents because they would never know. His parents did not even know that anything was wrong with their son until he later died, if they continued to monitor him, they could have guided him so he could have deviated from his bad ways early before his untimely death. Keziah's parents did not even know that their child was raped until she was tested positive for pregnancy, most of these problems could have been solved if their parents were paying close attention to their children.

4. Theme of inadequate supervision and efforts of authorities and institutions in curbing anti-social vices

It talks about the issue of lack of proper supervision and support by those in position of authority to effectively address the growing prevalence of antisocial vices and other negative behaviors in the society. The theme can be seen in various fields such as education where students partake in different bad practices due to lack of proper guidance and direction from teachers and school authorities. A lot of criminal activities have increased due to inadequate efforts of those in the position to curtail such acts. The theme is a prevalent issue across various fields of society, and requires a concerted effort from those in power to address these issues effectively. If the school authority of Mayflower had taken precautions to deal with antisocial vices like cultism in the school and the issue of rape, they may not have been situations like those in the book. Keziah may have not been raped when she came to Demola's apartment and they would not have seen development of cults in the school environment.

5. Theme of moral decadence in the society

The theme talks about moral decadence which is a situation where moral values and ethical principles that guide social conduct break down, resulting in moral confusion and corruption. It highlights the decline of moral values such as honesty, integrity, responsibility, respect for others, and obedience to the law. It points to the shift in the way people perceive morality, where what was once considered unacceptable becomes acceptable over time. Moral decadence often leads to an increase in criminal activities and offense like rape, theft, drugs etc. It is a critical issue that affects the development and progress of any nation. It takes the effort of everyone in the society to uphold moral values, ethics, and principles that promote social wellbeing. The morals of people in the play like K.K, Bentol and the likes were bad leading them to live a wayward and bad lifestyle, they were not properly trained enough to adhere to morals, rules, good and healthy lifestyle to prevent them from causing criminal acts and others.

Attempt detailed character analyses of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom

1. Stella

Stella was one of Keziah's roommate who was noticeably close with Keziah. She was the first-person Keziah talked about the rape incident with and who also experienced the same type of incident during teenage years. In the play stella was a minor character who had been raped and rushed into world of sexual gratification at a young age. She blamed God for allowing the incident to happen to her. She had several dreams where she almost committed suicide and was later saved before embarking on it. She gave her life to Jesus and turned a new leaf through the help of God. She was supportive and helpful to Keziah. A nice, kind and caring friend.

2. Demola

Demola was one of the main characters of this play who died due to being shot by his best friend K.K during a cult operation. Who was the one chased after Keziah and later raped her due to being influenced by his friends and strategized by them. He was the child of Engineer and Mrs.

Diran and later fathered a child. He was one of Keziah's course mates and also one of her admirers. His friend was K.K and Bentol who also joined the cult with him. Demola let peer pressure get to him leading to his early death and other mischievous acts like the rape incident. According to the play Demola was smart, gullible and was misled by his friends. He kept bad friends which influenced his decisions.

3. Dr. Aworawo Richards

He is the father of Keziah who was a doctor. When he found out about Keziah's pregnancy, he was very angry and wanted and to terminate the pregnancy but was not done due to the intervention of his wife. He was angry that Keziah brought shame to the family and looked at her with disdain. He treated her coldly until she attempted suicide and later changed to be a loving father. Mr. Richards was a strict man who valued his daughter's education and future. He asked for her forgiveness at the hospital after she recovered after attempting suicide. He sent back to school after she gave birth to her child Mouritha to start afresh and not disappoint them again.

3. What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM

There was a change in setting in the Sixth movement (pg.34) in the play where Stella was supposed to wake up from the sleep in her room and there was a knock on the door of her room by Emmanuella but in the play Stella was outside spreading clothes and Emmanuella just came to meet her and started talking to her.

There was also a change in the script of the Eight movement (pg.40) in the play where there were supposed to be three converts including Demola who were brought into the society with Demola kneeling in the center but in the play, there was only two converts and Demola was already in the cult instead of just being converted into the society.

In the book K.K confessed to Demola's parents (Ninetieth movement) before they went to go and meet Keziah and her parents to discuss about all that happened (Twenty first movement) but in the play Mrs. Diran had died leaving Engineer Diran to meet Keziah's parent alone and the only person who K.K confessed to.

Also, the Ninetieth movement was played along with the Twenty first movement in the play instead of before it. So, Engineer Diran went to go and meet Keziah's parents before the scene of the ninetieth movement was acted by K.K and Engineer Diran then the strategy planning scene followed suite and it was brought back to Engineer Diran meeting and discussing with them.

