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**COURSE CODE: AFE 122**

**COURSE TITLE: USE OF ENGLISH**

**1.) Attempt an inclusive interpretation of Solomon A. Edebor’s “Good Morning’s Sodom”, underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.**

**ANSWERS**

**A.)** **Effects of Rape:** Rape has more effect on people than we perceive, and this is seen in the play through keziah and Stella. This was shown on both keziah and her friend, Stella. After keziah is raped by Demola, she is emotionally downcast and scared. Where it becomes worse is when her parents find out. Her father despises her for bringing shame unto the family, this affects her emotionally and psychologically until she finally decides to take her life and commit suicide. In the case of Stella, she was raped in semi-religious setting which constituted to her abandoning her love for God and her religion. She began living a reckless life and dwelled in all types of promiscuity which would’ve have led to a disastrous end. Luckily, both Stella and Keziah were able to survive and change their ways due to grace or “divine intervention”. This is to show that the incidence of rape has a very big damage and effect on the wholesome wellbeing of the victim, whether spiritually physically, emotionally, socially or psychologically.

**B.) Bad parenting and neglect:** This is a very important issue which portrayed in this play and although it cuts across all parents, it is mostly seen amongst rich or privileged parents. It is portrayed here through the characters of Keziah’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Demola’s parents, Eng. And Mrs. Diran. Mr. Richard is a busy man who travels for work and so, doesn’t have time to check-up and visit keziah. Although he tries to make up for it with “goodies”, parental presence and emotional care is very or more important than material care. Even at Keziah’s worst moments, he fails to give her the emotional support needed at that particular moment until later after her attempted suicide. At the part of demola’s parents, they failed to keep an eye on Demola, and let their “better” judgement blind them from their parental responsibilities. Instead of questioning the welfare and experience of demola, querying some of his questions and watching his actions his welfare. They blindly believed whatever he said and provided for his material wants and needs. This unfortunately led to his influence from friends and classmates to rape keziah and join a cult which eventually led to his untimely death.

**C.)** **Peer pressure**: Peer pressure is one of the greatest issues among children and young adults, and it is one of the most dominant themes in the play. This seen in the case of Keziah and Demola who were cajoled into doing some actions and making some decisions they later regretted. Keziah was persuaded by Ovie and Bunmi into befriending Demola and accepting his proposal. Coincidentally, Demola was also pressured by his friend Nwoko (k.k.), into drugging keziah so he could rape her. Both keziah and Demola would both have just lived in peace and happily if they had not been persuaded or had decided not be persuaded. Not all persuasion is bad, some are actually good and beneficial, but one must evaluate themselves and always remember that “All fingers are not equal”.

**D.) Cultism:** Cultism is seen as a crippling menace that is already harboring in the university setting and is penetrating into the secondary school educational system. It cuts across all levels as seen in the play. The effect of cultism is seen in the play with the encounter of demola and his friend Nkanga who persuades him to enter into his cult. They are initiated into the cult through some rituals that if not for the immune system and how the body works would’ve killed them. They are then told to fight another secret cult society which leads to the untimely death of some cult members and Demola, significantly by his same cult member and friend Nkanga, serious or grave injuries attained and the comprehension of some of the cult members. In this effect, one can point out that there is no positive reason or valid pint of joining a cult, except for the false belief that it provides protection and seniority, for if a cult member can be killed by another cult or by his same “brother” or member, then which protection does it provide?

**E.)** ***The bitter justice and equality before the law*:** Justice is always sought by people in the society, but it is not always a sweet experience, from all perspectives. This is seen in the seventeenth movement where the cultist members are being prosecuted and everyone is happy that they’ve been apprehended, but the mother of one of the culprits nkanga nwoko is seen wailing and in great despair. If the tables were to be turned, she would be chanting for justice on the culprits. If mercy should though be included in the judgement, it should not blind our better judgement, cause as the famous saying is incited here, “*Fiat Justitia ruat caelum”*, let justice be done through heavens fall.

**2.) Attempt a detailed character analysis of any three characters in Solomon Edebor’s “Good Morning, Sodom”.**

**ANSWER**

**A.)Keziah**: The main character, keziah is a vibrant, smart young girl. Her parents were Dr. Richards and Mrs. Joke Richards. Keziah at the beginning of the play was shown to be a disciplined and law student. This kept on until she met demola, her admirer who confesses his love for her but she refuses knowing fully well what would happen if she says yes and start a relationship. Unfortunately, she was convinced by her friends to give him a chance. Which he wasted after drugging and raping her for the first time of her coming to his house. Seeing the disgrace and shame she had put her family, she decided to take her life, but was saved before she could give up the ghost. She is in overall a very smart, caring and responsible person.

**B.) Demola:** Demola is seen as a very smart boy who comes from a rich home. He is in love with Keziah and is persistent in trying to get her to accept his proposal. He’s consistency finally favors him and he gets keziah to coma and visit him in his room outside school Premises. He is unluckily, naïve and easily persuaded which leads him to agreeing to his friends’ negative persuasions to move out of the school’s hostel, to drug keziah and sleep with her and finally to join their cult, which unfortunately leads to his death, by the gun of the same friend that has been persuading him to make bad decisions.

**C.) Dr. Aworawo Richards**: Mr. Richard is the father of Keziah and husband of Mrs. Joke Richards, who is portrayed as a very busy man who has to travel around due to the nature of his job. This consequently causes him to have little or no physical interaction with his daughter, and the only contact he has with her is when he is providing for her needs or providing her “goodies” to compensate for his absence. He also fails in his fatherly duties when he is presented with the news of Keziah’s baby, and he treats her with consent and disgust for bringing disgrace unto the family’s “name”. He eventually makes up for all his mistakes after he rushes keziah to the hospital because of her attempted suicide.

**3.What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of Good Morning, Sodom?**

**ANSWER**

 The play “Good Morning Sodom” and the movie “Good Morning, Sodom” are identical, to say the least due to the fact that there appears to be a point of divergence between the movie and the play. For example, there are additional scenes in the movie that are not included in the play, consequently leading to appearance of more characters in the movie. This was done mindfully by the producer and the playwright to make the film more entertaining, but more importantly, to lay emphasis of the nuisances that accompany some of the crippling factors in the nonchalant and deteriorating values of the youths, and how it affects their life and those around them.