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AFE 122

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

A. Theme of cultism

The play-novella highlighted how cultism preys on vulnerable individuals, especially young people. Keziah, who was initially sceptical of cult practices, was gradually brainwashed to fully embrace it due to K.k's manipulation and Demola's death. The play-novella also revealed how cult leaders use fear and intimidation as tactics to control their followers and silence dissent.

Furthermore, the play-novella exposed the dangers of blind obedience and the consequences of surrendering one's will to a charismatic leader. It highlighted the need for critical thinking, personal responsibility, and the importance of seeking reliable sources of information before making important decisions.

The story also showed the devastating impact of cultism on families and communities. It depicted how relationships can be torn apart, trust can be broken, and lives can be destroyed due to the destructive influence of cults.

In the end, the play-novella left the audience with a message of hope and resilience. Despite the tragedy that occurred, the characters learned important lessons and were able to move forward with a greater sense of awareness and understanding of the dangers of cultism.

B. Theme of bad parenting

The book portrays the neglectful attitude of Demola's parents towards their son's life choices and academic pursuits. Demola's father was more focused on his own career and social status than on his son's well-being, while his mother was passive and allowed her husband to take charge of all decisions regarding their family. This absence of parental guidance and concern led to Demola's reckless behaviour and eventual academic failure.

Demola's father was more focused on maintaining his position in society and keeping up appearances, rather than investing time and energy into his son's education and personal development. He never bothered to check on Demola's progress in school or offer any guidance on how to navigate university life.

Meanwhile, Demola's mother was a passive figure who didn't seem to have any say in the family's decision-making process. She allowed her husband to take control of everything, including matters related to their son's education and future. As a result, Demola felt neglected and unsupported by his parents.

The book highlights the importance of parental involvement and guidance in shaping a child's future. It is clear that Demola would have benefited greatly from having parents who showed a genuine interest in his life and well-being. Without this

support, Demola was left to make his own decisions, which ultimately led to his academic failure and a sense of emptiness in his personal life.

Overall, the book provides a sobering reminder of the crucial role that parents play in their children's lives. It emphasizes the need for parents to be present, involved, and supportive in order to help their children reach their full potential.

C. Theme of peer pressure

The story portrays the negative effects of peer pressure and the importance of making positive choices. In the end, Demola suffers the consequences of his actions and is left to deal with the guilt and shame of his involvement in these crimes. It serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of giving in to peer pressure and the importance of standing up for what is right, even when it may be unpopular or difficult. The book shows that the consequences of giving in to peer pressure can be severe and long-lasting, affecting not only the individual but also those around them. Moreover, it highlights the importance of parental guidance, mentorship, and counselling for young people to make informed decisions and avoid succumbing to negative influences. Overall, the book underscores the need for a supportive and nurturing environment to help young people confront the challenges that come with growing up.

D. Theme of Neglect

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According to the book, the theme of neglect was highlighted in the sense that Keziah's father treated her harshly after she became pregnant, and this treatment provoked her attempt to suicide. Keziah's father was initially in denial and insensitive about the situation, which caused Keziah to feel isolated and neglected. He refused to acknowledge her pregnancy, and instead, he blamed and punished her for bringing shame to the family. This attitude from her father made Keziah feel like a burden and caused her to become depressed, which ultimately led to her attempting suicide.

In conclusion, the theme of neglect is a prevalent motif in the book, as it highlights the importance of providing support to those in need. Neglect can have a severe impact on an individual's mental health, and it is essential to show compassion and understanding during challenging times. The book's message serves as a reminder that neglect can lead to disastrous consequences and that it is crucial to provide support and care to those who are struggling.

Theme of Resilience and hope

The theme of resilience and hope is also evident in the character of Stella. Stella was sexually

assaulted multiple times at a very young age, which led to her losing faith in God and feeling hopeless. However, throughout the book, we see how Stella gradually built her resilience and hope, inspired by her dreams and the people she met.

Despite the trauma she experienced, Stella embodies resilience by not allowing her past to define her present and future. She learns to strengthen her mind, taking conscious steps to avoid repeating the mistakes of her past. She also enlists the help of

professionals and the support of loved ones to help her heal and overcome her past experiences.

Stella's hopefulness is also shown in her dreams, which act as a window of understanding and comfort for her. She continues to search for answers and meaning in her dreams, which helps to fuel her hope and keeps her focused on a positive outcome.

Ultimately, at a critical juncture in the book, Stella experiences a dream that gives her renewed hope and a sense of direction. The dream is a turning point for Stella, and it helps her to regain her faith in God and her ability to overcome her challenges.

Stella's character serves as an example of how resilience and hope can help individuals overcome adversity. Regardless of what life throws our way, we can control our attitude and outlook towards it. Furthermore, we can draw on our resilience and hope to navigate challenging situations with fortitude and come out stronger on the other side.

2. Attempt a detailed character analysis of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's *Good Morning Seldom*.

a) Demola

Demola was a very interesting character in the novel who had wealthy parents but they failed to instill good morals and values in their son, which ultimately led to his downfall. Demola's actions were a result of a lack of guidance and discipline from his parents, who should have been more involved in his life.

However, despite his wrongdoings, Demola's character was complex and showed a hint of remorse for what he had done. He was conflicted between his desire to fit in with his peers and his guilt over his actions. This made him a tragic figure in the novel, as he was a victim of his own circumstances and the lack of a supportive environment.

Furthermore, Demola's story highlights the dangers of peer pressure and the negative influence friends can have on a person's life. His friends led him down a destructive path, and he was unable to break free from their hold. This serves as a cautionary tale for young people who may be tempted to follow the crowd.

In conclusion, Demola was a complex and tragic character in the novel. His story serves as a reminder of the importance of parental guidance and the dangers of peer pressure. It also

highlights the need for society to address issues of neglect and lack of support for young people.

b) Stella

Stella was one of the characters in the novel, she was determined to not let the traumatic experience define her. As the story unfolded, Stella was a helpful

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roommate, she became a trusted friend to the protagonist of the book. Her intelligence and focus also helped her to excel in her studies and her career, which inspired and motivated the main character to pursue her own dreams. Moreover, despite the trauma she experienced, Stella showed incredible resilience and strength in coping with her emotions and continuing to live her life. Her determination to overcome her trauma and not let it define her was truly inspiring, and her support and encouragement helped the main character face her own struggles as well.

Overall, Stella was a shining example of the impact that even minor characters can have in a story. She proved that kindness, intelligence and resilience can make a powerful difference in the lives of those around us.

Doctor Richards

and business. He even went ahead to make arrangements for Keziah to have an abortion, without considering her own wishes and the potential trauma it would cause her. He also seemed to have a lack of understanding about the severity of the situation and the impact it would have on Keziah's psychological well-being.

Throughout the book, Mr Richards is portrayed as being very self-centred and neglectful towards his daughter's needs. He never really took the time to acknowledge or address the magnitude of what had happened to her, and seemed to brush it off as just another problem that needed to be dealt with.

Furthermore, his hypocrisy towards the issue of abortion is also evident. While he is very vocal about his stance against abortion publicly, privately, he tries to get Keziah to have an abortion to avoid the scandal it would bring upon their family. This highlights his lack of empathy and consideration towards his daughter and her emotional state.

Overall, Mr Richards' actions throughout the book highlight his neglectful behaviour towards his daughter and his inability to prioritize her well-being over his own interests. His hypocrisy towards the issue of abortion further emphasizes his selfish nature, making him a complex and flawed character in the story.

Question:3

What are the points of divergence between the written version and film version.

Solution:

1. In the third movement, the film version had a scene where Dr. Yusuf was interrupted by some late students before continuing his lecture, while in the book, the lecture was uninterrupted.

2. In the third movement, the film version shows Demola asking Ovie about Keziah while sitting in the class, while in the book version, it was written that Ovie follows him to a corner to ask about Keziah.

3. In the book, when Stella was about to share her story with Keziah it was written that she moved over to the window side and looks to the distance where as in the film, she was sitting on a bed beside Keziah while narrating her story.

4. In the book, it was written that Stella woke up from a dream then Emmanuella enters, but in the film version, Emmanuella coming to meet Stella was another scene.

5. In the book version, Demola was one of the three new members initiated into the Red Shadows cult group, but in the film version, it was seen that there were only two new members being initiated and Demola was already part of the cult group.

6. In the book version, it depicted the DPO as a female while in the film version, the DPO was seen to be a male.

7. In the fifteenth movement, the film version had a scene where Mrs. Richards was consoling her daughter Keziah in her bedroom, but in the book version, there is no scene of such.

8. In the book version, the seventeenth movement showed a detailed court session between the Prosecution Counsel and Defence Counsel, while in the movie, the court session was brief then skipped to the judgement by the judge on the case.

9. In the film version, it was said that Demola's mum was dead while in the book version, Demola's mum was alive.

10. In the film version, the name of Keziah's daughter, Heritage Demola-Diran was shown, but in book version, it was not.

In the film version, the twenty third movement was not shown but rather, it was written that Keziah transferred to University of Ibadan.