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

**SUMMARY OF THE PLAY**

*Good morning, Sodom by Solomon A. Edebor* is a play which is centered on on Keziah the daughter of Dr & Mrs Aworawo Richards. Keziah is only child of Mr &Mrs Richards and is determined to make good grades for herself in the university.

The play begins with Keziah’s mother coming to visit Keziah on campus alongside with her driver Olumide. She brings provisions for Keziah and asks her about her wellbeing. Keziah’s mother soon leaves and Keziah stumbled upon Demola who is in love with her (Keziah). Demola is relentless as her continues to pester Keziah in order to persuade her in to a relationship with him. Keziah was offered some advices from both Ovie and Bunmi who feels that Keziah should give Demola a chance on the grounds that he is not bad and may not be like other guys and most importantly he is intelligent. Keziah still does not give heed to what they were saying and decides to change the topic to the matters of their ENG 205 assignment.

One afternoon Keziah visits Demola in his room (off campus) for help in an assignment. Demola sought to get a drink for his visitor he remembers about a drink that was in his fridge and quickly offered it to Keziah after couple of sips she suddenly feels dizzy and falls asleep. She soon wakes up and finds herself beside Demola who is fast asleep it then dawned on her that he had slept with her. She was disappointed and wept bitterly. Stella was there to comfort her, stella tells he a story of her life when she was raped by four (4) at the young age of fourteen boys two (2) of which were her pastor’s sons.

Demola tries apologizing to Keziah under the umbrella that his actions were not intentional but Keziah would not even give him a listening ear obviously after what he had done, he should not be expecting her forgiveness. Demola goes to meet K.K the masterminded behind all Demola’s deviant behaviours to express disappointment in himself after what he had done to Keziah ‘’I can’t forgive myself ‘’ he reasoned. K.K gives a white substance according to him it is meant to banish his guilt. After Demola took the substance, it soon started to take an effect on him. Demola was led to the red shadows (a cult group), he was initiated by spark the head of the cult group.

At the main gate of the university, gunshot was heard and immediately, Demola falls lifeless to the ground. Soaked in a pool of blood there was a crowd around him stella was there and so she quickly called Keziah to come and see for herself as soon as she arrived, on seeing Demola dead, she faint and was rushed to the hospital. Stella quickly called her parent who came and took her home after she was discharged. Some days later, her dad called for her and showed her a latter to read it was a pregnancy confirmation letter (she was 9 weeks pregnant) she was made to confess who was responsible for her pregnancy and she told them that it was for Demola. Disappointed them was left to console themselves.

A court case was held for the apprehended cultists and judgement were passed based on the gravity of offenses committed. Meanwhile, Dr. Richards was on his way to Abuja when he received a call and found out that he has to get an important document so he had to go back and get it. On arriving at home, he noticed that Keziah was not around he soon sees a letter on the table after reading the letter, he quickly rushed and to get his dying daughter he rushed her to the hospital and luckily she was saved. When Keziah was discharged, he took her and her mother home and apologised to Keziah for treating her that way the family soon became happy and one. After a while, Keziah gave birth to a girl and thing became all the more better.

**Thematic thrusts engaged in the Play**

1. ***Peer pressure*** :(Influence)

The theme of peer pressure is depicted in the case of Demola and K.K. All Demola’s actions were masterminded by K.K.

K.K asked him to lie to his parents so that he could get a room off campus, he made him drugged Keziah and rape her, he introduced him to harmful substance to inhale according to them it was meant to banish their sorrows, K.K introduced Demola to the red devils (a cult group) and K.K shot Demola ‘mistakenly’ during their cult operation. There was an atom of peer pressure on the part of Keziah by Ovie and Bunmi who asked Keziah to give Demola a chance in Keziah’s life.

**2*.******Sexual Assault***: (Rape)

The theme of sexual assault effaced in the play in the sixth movement when Keziah went to Demola’s room to get to understand more about her work. Demola gave her a drugged drink in order to take advantage of her. She fell dizzy and slept off only to wake up and realize that Demola had already slept with her. There was nothing she could do about this happening as it had already taken place. Sexual assault (rape) was also prominent in the case of stella when she was fourteen years and was raped by four boy who had her in turns (two of which were her pastor’s sons).

1. ***Betrayal***: (Disappointment)

The theme of betrayal/disappointment was also prominent in the play ***good morning, Sodom***. It first surfaced when Demola had his way with Keziah. Keziah was disappointed in him. He was like still under consideration on weather she should accept him or not and he had his way with her. It further extended it hands to Mr. Richards who went to the extreme end of disowning his daughter and treated her like trash. Obviously she had brought shame to the family so he is justified. Keziah was disappointed in herself and sought to kill herself but fate had something else in stall for her.

1. ***Indifferent parenting*:**(Negligence)

This theme mostly centres on Demola’s parents, Engineer & Mrs. Diran. The act carried out by Demola’s parents is covered under this theme. Owing to the fact that Demola’s parents did not pay particular attention to their child’s wellbeing in the university ranging from where he stayed, to what he does and others, this theme is justified under them. The theme still umbrellas the parents of the other cult members because it was obvious that they didn’t care any less about their children and this landed them in court to face the law squarely.

1. ***Lust***:

In the play, it was obvious that Demola was not in love with Keziah, he was only lusting after her. Keziah believed that guys are only interested in “what is between their legs” and Demola succeeded in proving her right by his defame actions of sleeping with her. So Demola satisfied the theme of lust in the play.

**Character Analysis/Characterization**

***Keziah Richards***:

Keziah Richards is an undergraduate. She is the daughter of Dr&Mrs Aworawo Richards. Keziah is their only child hence, the treated her with care and the fear of God. Keziah is the protagonist of this play, she was a studious girl that wanted good grades for herself hence, she did not give room for distractions of any sought. Demola loves her so badly that he wanted her in a relationship with him but Keziah’s eyes were just set on the target. She was that determined, she did not mind turning him down forever. Demola slept with Keziah after drugging her drink following the fact that Keziah came to his room to get her doubt flushed on a topic. Keziah soon became pregnant for Demola who was shot dead mistakenly by K.K during an operation by the red shadows. Keziah was disowned by her father and was treated with contempt so she settled to commit suicide but was rescued in time. She was bounded back with her family again Keziah gave birth to a baby girl.

***Diran Demola***

Demola is the antagonist of the play. He was weighed down by peer pressure. He is an intelligent undergraduate and course mate of Ovie, Bunmi and of course Keziah he madly in love with Keziah who is not reciprocating any sign of love for him back. He is persistent as he keeps Keziah on her toes in regards to his love for her. He was honoured by Keziah who came to visit he went up and down to get drink for his visitor he soon remembers that her kept a 5 alive drink in his fridge. He gave it to Keziah who drank it and became dizzy and soon fell asleep. He sexually immoralized her. Keziah hated him after this unruly act. He was led to the red shadows by K.K, he was initiated and he met his doom in an operation. He was shot by K.K ‘mistakenly’.

***Stella***:

Stella a friend of Keziah Richards. She had an ugly childhood experience which she had to share with Keziah after the event of Demola sexually assaulting Keziah to sheer her up. At the young age of fourteen (14), she was raped by for boys who deceived her into coming into the room two of the boys were her pastor’s children. Stella had to comfort Keziah through rough times from when she was raped to when she fainted and throughout she was more or like a good friend of Keziah Richards.

Points of Divergence between the Published and the Film Version

The film version

1. The is more explanatory than the published version: the film version brings down actions to a layman’s understanding bearing in mind that not all viewers are learned unlike the book version.
2. The Published version created a kind of visual imagery: When reading the published version, we could imagine what happened in scenarios and instances in the play unlike the film version which the actions were physically visible.
3. The film was more or like a summary of the Published version: In the Published version, Scenarios were explained one at a time whereas in the film version the scenarios were acted all at once.
4. The film is more understandable: The film is more understandable because the actions of the characters were visually seen unlike the published version in which was read in other to understand it.