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**LEVEL:** 100 LEVEL

**DEPARTMENT:** MEDICINE AND SURGERY

**MATRICULATION NUMBER:** 22/MHS01/071

**COURSE:** AFE 122 (USE OF ENGLISH)

ASSIGNMENT

1. Attempt an incisive interrogation of Solomon A. Edebor’s Good morning Sodom underscoring at least five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.
2. Attempt detailed Character analyses of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor’s Good Morning, Sodom
3. What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM?

THE THEMES IN THE PLAY, GOOD MORNING, SODOM

* PEER PRESSURE

Peer pressure is word consisting of two root words; Peer and Pressure. A peer is a person that is of the same age or status of an individual. Pressure is the act of persuading a person to do something. Peer pressure can therefore be defined as the persuasion a person receives from his mates, to take a decision. There are two types of peer pressure, Positive peer pressure and negative peer pressure. A person may be under positive or negative peer pressure. This depends on the type of friends he has. If his friends are good, he will be under positive peer pressure and if they are bad, he would be under negative peer influence. Negative peer pressure is a theme the play emphasizes on.

In movement five, we see that Demola wanted to be a friend of Keziah but she dismissed the idea. Her friends, Bunmi and Ovie, negatively advised her to give in to his plea. She listened to their advice.

In movement nineteen of the play, we see K.K in the prison ward, after he had been arrested. He explained to Engineer and Mrs Diran, how he negatively influenced their son, Demola. He told them how he introduced him to drugs, and initiated him into a cult. He told them, how he persuaded him to lie to them. He lied that the school didn’t have enough accommodation. This was that so he could stay off-campus. He had advised him to rape a female course mate, Keziah; who did not give in to his plea. His parents were irresponsible and so, they never asked on his welfare. Due to their irresponsibility, K.K was able to exert negative pressure on Demola.

* CULTISM

A cult is a secret society formed by like-minded individuals, to voice their opinions, on matters of their concern. They also talk on ways that they can be resolved (usually through illegal means). Cultism is the act of joining a cult, and engaging in their activities. The membership, initiation, policies and activities of cults, are done secretly. Cultism is a social problem prevalent in schools (mostly tertiary institutions). Many students join cults, to feel among, or superior their peers. They also join to have an unruly advantage, and get benefits (i.e good grades or getting a girlfriend).

In movement eight, Demola was initiated into a cult by his friend, K.K. The name of the cult is Red Shadows. After the initiation rite was performed, the leader of the cult, Spark, informed its members, on their plan, to take on a rival cult; The Sparrows. This is because they were said to have killed their members, Dagren and Festula. During the clash between the two cults, Demola was accidently shot and killed by his best friend, K.K. This is because, he suspected him to be a member of the rival cult.

* RAPE

A person is said to be a victim of rape when he is forced to have sexual intercourse with another person. A person could be raped because they are indecently dressed. This can make someone of the opposite sex, arouse sexual feelings towards them. A person can also be raped, when they take visits to the home of the opposite sex, alone. This was the reason why Keziah was raped in the play.

Keziah took a visit to Demola’s house alone. He made her unconscious by drugging her then he slept with her. She was devastated by his actions. She shared her experience with her roommate, Stella. Stella encouraged her by sharing her story on how she was raped as a young teenager. Her experience made her depressed, and opened the door of sexual promiscuity in her life. With the help from God, she was able to bounce back from her gloomy past. Keziah listened to her advice and decided to move on from her experience with Demola.

* TEENAGE PREGNANCY

This is a word consisting of two root words, teenage and pregnancy. A teenager is a person between the ages of 10 and 19. Pregnancy is the condition whereby a female conceives (i.e her egg has been fertilized by the sperm cell of a male). Teenage pregnancy can therefore be defined as when a female under the age of 20 conceives. Teenage pregnancy is one of the reasons why females drop out of tertiary institutions. This was the reason why Keziah dropped out from the University.

Keziah took a visit to Demola’s house alone. He poisoned her drink. He also pretended there was dirt on her face, and used a charmed handkerchief to clean her face. This made her unconscious. In her unconscious state, he slept with her and she became pregnant.

She had to drop out of the University, to cater for herself, and her unborn child. After the term of her pregnancy, she gave birth to a baby girl. She named her Mouritha

* REDEMPTION

This is the act of saving a person or being saved from error. Stella and Keziah were redeemed from their past, of sexual assault.

Stella explained to Keziah how she was delivered from sexual promiscuity. She became sexually promiscuous after she was raped. God gave her two dreams showing her how her she would become, if she did not repent. After the first dream, she remained adamant but the second dream changed her mind.

Keziah’s pregnancy for Demola made her drop out of school. She had to stay with her parents during the duration of her pregnancy. She was delivered of a baby girl at the end of the term (nine months).

After the birth of her child, she had a longing desire to go back to school. Her parents knew about this and helped her. They secured an admission for her in another university via an academic transfer. She had to change her university, so that she would not be overwhelmed by trauma she had experienced in her previous university; Mayflower University.

CHARACTER ANALYSES OF THE PLAY

* KEZIAH RICHARDS

Keziah Richards is the main character of the play. She is a fair and plump young lady. Her parents’ names are; Dr and Mrs Richards. She was a 200 level undergraduate student in the department of English, Mayflower University. The play centers on her life and as a university student. She had an admirer, Demola, who was her course mate. He wanted to be her friend but she dismissed the idea. Her friends, Bunmi and Ovie advised her to his give in to his plea, so she agreed to be his friend.

Demola invited her over to his house, using an assignment as a bait. He informed his friends, K.K and Bentol of his plan. They advised him to drug her and sleep with her. They gave him a handkerchief that he would make her sniff so she would be unconscious. He initially didn’t agree to the idea but with time, he succumbed. He was able to drug her and sleep with her. After she discovered what had happened, she kept her distance away from him.

Demola was initiated into a cult by his friend K.K. On the same night of his initiation, there was a clash between his cult and its rivals. He lost his life during the clash. Keziah arrived to the scene, where Demola was found dead. She fainted at the scene and was rushed to the hospital. In the hospital, she was tested positive for pregnancy. She dropped out from school and stayed with her parents during the pregnancy. After the term of her pregnancy, she was delivered of a baby girl whom she named her Mouritha. She wanted to continue schooling, and was given the opportunity by her parents. They had done an academic transfer from her University, Mayflower University to the University of Ibadan. Her maid at home, Chinenye, was assigned to her. She was assigned to care for Mouritha, while she was schooling.

* DEMOLA DIRAN

Demola Diran is one of the main characters of the play. He was a tall, dark and handsome young man. He was the only child of Engineer and Mrs Diran. He was a 200 level student of Mayflower University in the department of English.

Demola was Keziah’s course mate. He admired Keziah and wanted to be her friend but she refused. With much persuasion from her friends, Bunmi and Ovie, she agreed. He invited her over to his house for an assignment. He informed his best friend, K.K of her visit. K.K advised him to drug her and sleep with her. He did so and she became pregnant.

K.K initiated Demola into a cult, the name of the cult is Red Shadows. After the initiation rite was performed, the leader of the cult, Spark, informed that there was an ongoing rivalry between them and a cult, The Sparrows. This was because they had killed their members, Festula and Dagren. The same night he was initiated, there was a clash between the two cult groups. Demola was accidently shot by K.K, during the clash. This was because he suspected him to be a member of the rival cult.

* NKAGA NWOKO (NICKNAMED K.K)

He is a 400 level (final year) student of Mayflower University from the department of English. He is the only child of Mrs Nkanga, his widowed mother. She sells roasted plantain to earn a living.

He is Demola’s best friend. He became friends with Demola seeing that he was well-trained and that he was from a wealthy home. He was the one Demola always went to for advice. He introduced Demola to drugs and initiated him into cult. He accidently shot Demola during a clash between their cult members and its rivals. He was apprehended by the police for the crime.

He was made to face the court of law for the crime and he was sentenced on three count charges. The first charge was that he was found guilty of Manslaughter. He was sentenced to life imprisonment for this. The second charge was his membership of an unlawful society. The sentence was two years imprisonment. The third charge was his unlawful possession of firearms and he was fined a sum of hundred thousand naira.

POINTS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLISHED AND THE FILM VERSION OF THE PLAY

* In the third movement of the play, Demola was said to be seated on the third row at the extreme right of the lecture hall. In the movie, he was seated on the fourth row at the extreme right of hall.
* In the fourth movement, Demola was said to have been sipping a drink while eating rice, in the book. In the movie, he only took a drink.
* Also, in the fourth movement of the book, it was not recorded that Stella was in the cafeteria. In the movie, Stella was seen in the cafeteria seated a few tables away from Demola and Keziah. She was listening to their conversation.
* In the Eight movement of the book, Demola was being initiated into the cult. In the movie, Demola was already a cult member and was involved in the initiation of two new members.
* In the thirteenth movement of the book, The DPO of the police station, was said to be female. In the movie, the DPO was a male.
* In the eighteenth movement of the book, Keziah was found unconscious in her room. This was because she had drugged herself. In the movie, she was found next to the sitting room of her house.