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MATRIC NO: **22/MHS01/057**

COURSE: **USE OF ENGLISH**

COURSE CODE: **AFE 122**

ASSIGNMENT: **1) Attempt an incisive interrogation of *SOLOMON A.EDOBOR’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.EDOBOR’S GOOD MORNING SODOM.***

***3)What is in the point of divergence between the published and the film version of SOLOMON A.EDOBOR’S GOOD MORNING SODOM?***

**ANSWERS**

1. Firstly, I will like to list out all the themes I could point out in this book in my personal view; **Cultism, Rape, Suicide, Poor Parenting, Ignorance, Peer Pressure, Disbelief in God…**

However, I will be talking about just five out of the themes listed above:

\****CULTISM:*** This is a very common problem disturbing most universities in **NIGERIA.** The term ***“cultism”*** is an act of belonging to a secret cult in an Educational institution. The book ***GOOD MORNING SODOM*** likewise, brings to our understanding the deeper meaning of **CULTISM** using a group of university boys as example; this isn’t saying that only boys are found guilty of engaging in this criminal act, girls can also be found guilty in some universities in **NIGERIA.** Using this book as a typical example, we will be looking at a group of boys who organized a cult group named **RED SPARROWS** with a response to it as **“Untouchable, Untameable, Unmerciful”** when chanted during their cult meetings. During their cult meetings some special rites are carried out to welcome new members ***(This was done to make Demola a member whereby he was given a given a calabash stained with blood to drink from by K.K; The person who influenced him to join the group****),* strengthen themselves and many more .They also had this occultic chanting they sing and hoot while rounding a circle of fire and some other evil activities they carry out in their cult meetings. All these members of the cult mostly join to become more famous and superior over the mates on campus, some join due to neglect from parents, children from rich homes also join to feel bigger than they already are. The worst of all the activities these cultists engage in is; is having beef or fighting with other cult groups. A typical example in the book was the one that led to **Demola’s death** and the death of some other innocent students on the campus which was caused by the death of ***“Dagren and Festula”*** which was said to be be a fault of another cult group named **THE SPARROWS**.

\****RAPE:*** All the themes of this book ***GOOD MORNING SODOM*** are common problems **NIGERIA** is facing currently; because talking about rape, It is a criminal act and a life trauma causing effect for its victims. This book gives a living example of a rape experience with a popular format used by known rapist either in movie, journals, articles or books like this one where Demola used an already ***charmed hanker- chief***to clean her face to put her in a deep sleep so he can carry out his evil intention. Here, **Demola** is seen as the **rapist** and **Kezaih** as the **victim.** In my personal opinion I can say that Demola only had the intention of showing her true love, care, affection and not just the idea of having sex with her forcefully and at the same time taking away her virginity that she has kept intact all her life but he just had to fall in to the devil’s pit by buying into K.K’s idea of raping her and , leaving Kezaih in a devastated state and an ever-lasting trauma that shattered her dreams of being her parent’s proud graduate because it resulted in pregnancy which she couldn’t hide from her parents.She became a living shame to herself and her father especially.

\****SUICIDE:*** This is also a major problem in our country today but without a major cause, leading to high death rate especially in the rural-urban areas. Various individuals have different personal problems they are living with, causing them to attempt or commit suicide. Problems like poverty, depression, heartbreaks, loss of a loved one, Neglect, unemployment, traumas of different kinds e. t. c. Attempted or committed suicide according to the law is a criminal offence. I can simply say Kezaih’s reason for attempting suicide was because of the trauma she has been battling with since the rape experience, The fact that Demola died and her Father’s attitude towards ever since the report of her pregnancy; he made her feel like a living shame, looked her with disgust, he was just disappointed. Only her mother stood by her and made her feel that there was still hope but her father didn’t care not like he no longer loved her but the pregnancy pissed him off and got him annoyed and Kezaih also felt ashamed of herself and decided to commit suicide leaving a written note behind; but since God works in miraculous ways and still had good things in mind to do for her, he directed her father back home in time to stop her.She had taken poison already but he rushed her to the hospital, She was safe and so was the unborn child.

I PERSONALLY FEEL SUICIDE IS NOT THE BEST OPTION EXCEPT IF THE CREATOR DECIDES TO TAKE YOUR LIFE HISELF, SO JUST PRAY.

\****POOR PARENTING:*** This attitude was exhibited by Demola’s parent in the book. Many Nigerian parents are also found guilty of this, which is very bad it’s a part of the cause of cultism. Demola’s parent felt like money was the only necessity of a child, and once the money is provided the child automatically be satisfied and happy. Children of nowadays need adequate care and attention to grow, they need parental love and connection, sense of belonging and attachment not only financial needs and also proper discipline should also be provided to a child. In the case of Demola he lacked all these necessities, money couldn’t buy them and his weren’t there for him. They had no time for Demola as his parents. So, when he met K.K, he felt like he had finally found someone who had interest in his affairs and cared about him, someone who could guide him on what to do and what not do, he finally felt like he belonged but it was to a wrong place. If his parents had cared for him and looked after him properly he wouldn’t have fallen prey to the bad influence of K.K. K.K filled the space his parents couldn’t fill asides financial needs.

\****PEER PRESSURE:*** This can be of positive effect and at the same time; negative effect depending on the purpose and how one responds to it. In relation to the book, I will be using Kezaih and Demola as an example of a type of pressure but different response. Kezaih, as at the time Demola was first wooing her, he told her coursemates to help him in persuading her or should I say influence her to give him a chance; so her coursemates maybe friends as well ***‘‘Ozie and Bunmi’’*** were trying their best to influence her into giving him a chance but Kezaih refused saying she doesn’t have time for boys yet that she has come to school to study to make herself proud and her parents as well. I can say now that this would have been a good response if she had kept to her words and she not eventually theed to her friends who see having numerous boyfriends as a good thing and putting their studies aside. Demola on the other hand was also pressured by K.K into doing a lot of bad things such as joining cult, taking drugs, raping Kezaih which he regretted later on, fighting on school campus which was his last because he lost his life in the process. I can say this is a bad response because he died has a result of the bad influence which was due to his parent neglect to their parenting skills and many other regretting actions.

2)\***KEZAIH:** The ***Protagonist*** of the book ***GOOD MORNING SODOM*** ; a play. A young innocent lady in her late teens attending **Mayflower University**, as a disciplined and focused student who later fell victim of negative peer pressure. **Ovie and Bunmi**, Kezaih’s course mates; bring negative pressure to bear on her as they lead her into Demola’s trap. Kezaih becomes pregnant and her educational adventure is truncated. She is the daughter of **MR and MRS RICHARDS**. Room-mate to **Stella and Mmaobi**, Mother to **Mouritha**; the result of her rape experience with Demola. Kezaih later has the opportunity to go to school with the support and help of her parents after a safe delivery of Mouritha. Kezaih tenders a heartfelt apology to her parent, she also thank God and her parent for giving her another opportunity in life.

\****DEMOLA:*** I can say he is the antagonist of the book beacause he played a major role of hindering Kezaih’s (The Protagonist) educational adventure and brought upon her some challenges in the play. He is a victim/product of bad parenting, I can say that Demola was a spoilt brat with no parental care or good morals. He also fell a victim of negative peer pressure through **K.K.** He is the son of **MR and MRS DIRAN**. He became a member of the **RED SHADOWS confraternity** where he was introduced to by K.K, who also taught him how to do drugs, live off campus and he also encouraged him to rape Kezaih who has been proofing stubborn to him. He later died **(mistakenly shot by K.K)** in the play during a clash between his cult group and another. This seems to me as a grave consequence for his action.

\****SPARK:*** A member of the **Red Sparrow Confraternity** or more like a **leader** because he headed their cult meetings and conducted the special rites that was to be done to mark a new member, just like when Demola was to be marked; he gave them a calabash with blood stains to drink from stating that it’s the water of covenant that bonded them together and he was the one who informed the group that a fight will be coming up in revenge to the death of **Dagren and Festula;** members of the Red Shadows that was caused by **The Sparrows**(another confraternity). He was **later expelled** from the school after the fight that led to deaths and was **later arrested** and **taken to court** with some others.

3) Firstly , as described by the writer in the **First movement** , Keziah was with neatly plaited hair ,but in the film, she was on a wig .

In the **Second movement** , on Keziah's way to the library , her phone rang so she stopped to answer it , but in the movie ,the scene began with her on a phone call.

In the **Third movement** , when Dr . Yusuf was lecturing in the class he mentioned some Nigerian scholars but in the film , he didn't . In the part where he cleared his throat in the book , in the film , he was interrupted by students who came late to class so he sent them out . And also , in the book , Demola spoke to Ovie alone about Keziah's absence from school . But in the movie , he spoke to both Ovie and Bunmi.

In the **Fourth movement** , which took place in the cafeteria , it was written in the book that Demola got a plate of rice and a bottle of drink for himself but in the film , he only got himself a bottle of drink .

The **Sixth movement** took place three weeks later according to the film but in the book , it wasn't indicated . Also , according to the movie , when Keziah got a message from Ovie , the phone wasn't in her bag but in the book , it was in her bag. In the book , when Stella told Keziah about her ugly past , they were in their room and she ended the story in the room as well , but in the film , she started to tell her story from the room but as she went on , they took a stroll outside and she completed it under a tree. Moving along in the sixth movement , when Stella was telling her story , she said four young men were seen bringing clothes from the house , but in the film, only two men brought out the clothes and burnt them . In the book , when Emmanuella came to give her a message from God she was laying on her bed in the room but in the movie she ( Stella ) was outside spreading her clothes on the line .

In the **Tenth movement** , the scene and spotlight started with Demola's dead body , but in the book , it started with Stella.

Also , from the description in the book , I understod that Keziah's palms were raised to her temples pulling away from the crowd in shock and fainted on seeing Demola's dead body. The writer also said she was found bleeding , as Stella in tears carried her to the car . But in the movie , her palms were not on her temples and the scene where she bled and was rushed to the hospital wasn't displayed.

In the **Thirteenth movement** , as shown in the film; The DPO was a man so he was addressed as " sir ". But in the book , the DPO was addressed as " Ma " stating that she is a woman.The DPO made some statement about investigation regarding the IPO and the process of how the cultists persecution would take place in the film but it wasn't expressed in the book

In the **Fourteenth movement,** Dr Richards (Kezaih's Father) made some comments of shame and rejection in a way of expressing how pissed and dissapointed he his at her and amount of disgrace and ridicule she has brought to the family which was expressed in the book but was pardoned in the film and wasn't displayed.

In the **Fifteenth movement,** Nonso and Zuwaira conversation in the film didn't correspond for a start compared to the book but later picked up after two lines and also thier conversation ending in the film didnt correspond to their conversation ending in the book; the last two lines werent acted out.

In the **Sixteenth movement,** in the film; it started with Kezaih in the sitting room going to open the door for her father without her mother telling her to "go see who is at the door", but in the book it was the other way round, She went to open the door for her father on her mother's order and this scene started from the kitchen not the sitting room.The scene of Kezaih's mother ordering her to the cut the vegetable after her father looked at her disdainfully leaving her in tears wasn't displayed in the film. Lastly, for this movement it was shown in the movie that Kezaih was been consoled by her mother because she was in tears due to the way her father was treating her but this was not written out in the book.

In the **Seventeenth movement,** the court scene was less detailed in the film compared to the book which explained detail for detail expressing the audience reactions with the clerk bringing them to order and the Judge adjourning the case which wasn't mentioned in the film.

In the **Eighteenth movement,** it was explained in the book that Dr richards ordered his driver to make a U-turn back home as he needed to get a file from home because of the call he recieved but it wasnt shown in the film.After he read the letter, he reffered to Kezaih in the book as "My daughter" in exclamation when he saw her lying lifeless on the floor but in the film he called her by her name.

In the published book the **nineteenth movement** were K.K called to see Demola's parents to confess to them that he was the cause of their plight; because he was the one who influenced him into all his bad doings that led to his death but in the film it was only Demola's father that went to see K.K in the prison because his mother died as a result of Demola's death and in the film the **twenteith movement** took place before the **nineteenth one.** That is, Kezaih and her father reunited after her poison incident.

The **twenty first movement,** where in the book the Kezaih and her parents went to visit Demola's parents but in the film it was just Demola's father, where he told Kezaih and her parents the truth about how Demola raped Kezaih with charm because K.K had already told him everything.

**Twenty second movement,** which played out as the last scene in the film; where Kezaih put to bed.The labour scene was well detailed in the book than in film.

Then,**the twenty third movement** which was the last movement of the book where Kezaih was given the opportunity to study again by her father was just wriiten out at the end of the film.

**The published version is more of a better version for those reading with their imagination because you can already relate what should happen in the next scene.This published version on reading gives more energy in the conversation tones,the pregnancy saga Kezaih had with her parents; her father's action was giving more fatherly like behaviour towards that scenario compared to the film; She seemed calm and not agitated by her plight and the other scenes too.I prefer the published version in my view doesnt make the film version bad but best for those with slow imagination when reading. It also added the university background and nollwood fantasy.**