

MATRIC NUMBER: 22/LAW01/028

COLLEGE: LAW

COURSE NAME/CODE: USE OF ENGLISH (AFE 122)

1. THE FIVE THEMATIC THRUSTS THE DRAMA

A. Negative peer group influence

This is one of the most prominent themes in the drama and it is mainly in relation to the character, Demola. Demola is influenced by his close friends, Nkanga Nwoko known as K.K. and Usman Yibo known as Bentol. Demola is convinced into committing all sorts of atrocities, crimes and immoral acts such as, taking hard drugs, constantly lying to his parents, raping a female course mate, possessing fire arms and even joining a cult. It is Demola's friends who construct a plan on how to rape Keziah and convince him to execute it.

This is also seen as Keziah's course mates, Bunmi and Ovie advice her to give Demola a chance although she is not interested and does not trust him, they convince her telling her how they know he cares and that they trust him. She takes their advice and ends up being drugged then rapped.

B. Lack of adequate parental care/attention

This is another important theme in this drama. Engr. and Mrs Diran, the parents of Demola realise how they failed as parents to Demola, they are too busy trying to secure the financial future of their children that they begin to neglect them and forget to check on them. Demola's parents are constantly lied to by Demola, Demola even lies to them that the University could not accommodate all students and he had to live outside campus, they believe him without hesitation, they do not even bother checking-in with the school. Due to this neglect, Demola's friends take his parents place and lead him astray.

This theme is also seen in the relationship between Dr Richards and Keziah. Dr Richards is busy and misses Keziah's visiting day, promising to make it up to her. Dr Richards also reacts very poorly when Keziah gets pregnant. He refuses to listen to Keziah, he refuses to see the situation from her point of view, he seems to worry more about his family's reputation than Keziah's emotional or mental health, he goes on to call Keziah a disgrace to their family and disowns her as his daughter. He even asks that she aborts the pregnancy after single-handedly deciding it to be the better option without putting Keziah's feelings and what she wants into consideration. This causes Keziah more pain and pushes her to attempt suicide with the mindset that she will be doing everyone a favour.

C. Sexual assault/rape

Sexual assault is also a theme in this drama. Demola has confessed his love to Keziah plenty times and finally convinces her to come to his apartment using an assignment as bait. K.K and Bentol convince him to "maximise the moment", they construct a plan on how Demola can lure, drug and rape Keziah. Demola executes this plan and impregnates Keziah.

This theme is also evident in Stella's experience. Stella, Keziah's roommate comforts Keziah after she has been raped and shares the story of how she was raped at fourteen years old.

D. Feelings of Remorse/Regret

This theme is obvious in the novel. Demola feels horrible for his actions towards Keziah, he regrets drugging and raping her. Demola admits his wrongs and pleads for Keziah's forgiveness but Keziah is not moved to forgive him.

This theme is also spotted towards the end of the drama. Dr Richards regrets the way he reacted to Keziah's pregnancy after she attempts suicide.

This theme is also seen as K.K takes responsibility for the death of Demola, he apologises to Demola's parents for all the harm he has caused them. He shows remorse for his actions and even cries while admitting his wrong.

E. Cult and violent activities

This is another obvious theme in the drama. There are two rival cults in the drama, The Red Shadows and The Sparrows. The Red Shadows is led by Spark, Bentol, K.K, Jumo and later Demola are also members of this cult/confraternity. They perform rites to welcome new members and carry out violent operations against their rival cult, this operation later leads to the death/manslaughter of Demola.

2. DETAILED CHARACTER ANALYSES

A. Keziah Richards

She is the main character, a young lady in her late teens, the daughter of Dr and Mrs Richards. Keziah is in her second year in Mayflower University. She is hardworking and studious, this is evident as she goes to read at the library and she is lured by Demola using an assignment as bait for her to visit him. She is also respectful and polite. Her respectfulness and politeness is evident as she expresses gratitude when necessary and is respectful to her elders, for instance, she thanks her driver when he brings her provisions from the car and calls him "Uncle Olumide", her referring to him as her uncle means that she recognises that he is older than her and treats him as so. She is morally upright and smart. She proves her smartness by being conscious of Demola instead of just instantly giving him a chance even though she had no reason to doubt his intentions, however her efforts are in vain as she falls for his trick to lure, drug and rape her and is impregnated by him.

B. Demola Diran

He is a young man in his second in Mayflower University studying English Language. Demola is the son of Engr. and Mrs Diran, he's from a wealthy home. Engr. and Mrs Diran focus on their desire to secure their children's financial future and fail to give adequate care and attention to Demola. Demola is negatively influenced by K.K, a 400 level student and Bentol, a 300 level student who he sees as friends and seeks advice from. They introduce him to hard drugs, persuade him to lie to his parents, convince him to rape his female course mate he cares about, Keziah and even initiate him into a cult. Demola has a good heart but is easily influenced, this is proven by him refusing to take the hard drug he is offered by K.K until he is finally convinced that he needs it. It is also proven that Demola has a good heart but is not strong-willed when he disagrees to drug and rape Keziah but is later convinced to. Demola's good heart is also

seen when he feels guilty and remorseful for his actions so he apologises to Keziah for drugging and raping her and begs for her forgiveness. Demola's being easily influenced eventually leads to his downfall, he dies by a gunshot wound after being mistakenly shot by K.K during an operation led by his cult against their rival cult.

C. **Stella**

Stella is Keziah's roommate. Keziah has taken a certain likeness to Stella, she tells her mum that she's been of great help to her and makes it very clear that Stella is the only one out of her roommates she likes. Stella helps Keziah and comforts her after she had been raped by Demola. Stella is struggling with her faith, she suffered a traumatic experience when she was fourteen, she was raped by her pastors two sons and two of their friends when she accompanied her father to his house because she loved God so much. She blamed God for what had happened to her, for causing the situations surrounding that day. Stella has been having dreams calling her back to God but has ignored every call. Her floormate, Emmanuella preaches to her to be born again but she dismisses her, however she has been having second thoughts on going back to God since she started having these dreams. She is also the only person that was there for Keziah after she had been raped.

3. **POINTS OF DIVERGENCE BETWEEN THE PUBLISHED AND THE FILM VERSION OF THE DRAMA**

Third Movement

- a. In the film version, Dr Yusuf's class is interrupted by a male and female student who came late to.
- b. In the film, Dr Yusuf greeted the students with 'good day', while in the published he greeted them with 'good morning'.
- c. Demola's first class two lines that were in the published weren't said in the movie, also Bunmi's and Ovie's first line were exempted in the film.

Fourth Movement

- a. In the published version, it is written that 'Demola takes a mouthful of rice then looks up to Keziah' while in the film he had only a drink with him but no rice.

Sixth Movement

- a. In the published version, it is written that Demola is lying on his bed, while in the film he isn't on a bed.
- b. Lines 8,9,12,14 and 15 are not used in the film version.
- c. In the film, Keziah wakes up sobbing and agitated and she slaps Demola, while in the published drama she does not slap Demola.
- d. In the published version, four men are bringing out some clothes under the command of Adeyoju, while in the film only one man is shown.
- e. In the published version, Stella wakes up after the first dream in her bed and interacts with Emmanuella after she wakes up, while in the film the scene of her waking up is omitted and she interacts with Emmanuella in the drying space outside.

Seventh Movement

- a. In the published version, Demola is given a white substance wrapped in a nylon by K.K, while in the film version, the white substance is wrapped in paper

Eighth Movement

- a. In the published version, three new members are initiated into the red shadow cult, including Demola, while in the film two new members are initiated into the red shadow cult excluding Demola.

Ninth Movement

- a. In the film, there is no scene that shows the fight between the rival cults, while in the published version there is.

Thirteenth Movement

- a. In the film, the role of the DPO is played by a male, while in the movie, inspector Dele refers to the DPO as 'ma' which insinuates that the DPO is female.

Sixteenth Movement

- a. In this scene in the published version, Keziah and Mrs Richards are cooking before Dr Richards arrives but there is no scene like that in the movie.

Seventeenth Movement

- a. The published version mentions Mrs Nkanga, Nkanga Nwoko's(K.K) mum being present during the court proceedings, while in the film version, Mrs Nkanga is not seen in the court room and there is no mention of her being present during the court proceedings.