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Question 1:

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

Good morning sodom is a didactic literary work. the writer in his wit set the play in a university Where he vividly portrays the themes of negative peer pressure, effects of rape, dangers of cultism and drug use, social justice alongside parental neglect. these themes dominate the narration of the plot.

To begin with, one very reoccurring theme in the play is that of peer pressure: the constant drive by ones peers to follow the perceived best way to live. This is evident in the life of Keziah. She is a promising young girl in her late teens who let the constant pressure from Bunmi and Ovie push her into a trap, one which scars her for life. Keziah's constant and outright rejection of Demola despite his unending tries at her, is seen by Bunmi and Ovie as wrong and being too hard. Well, being soft enough to pay him a visit cost her her dignity. In her unconsciousness after being charmed by Demola, her virtue was stolen, she was raped. How could he do such to one he claimed to love? Likewise, Demola himself is also a victim of peer pressure. His friend KK ruins and ultimately cut short his life. KK introduced Demola to cultism, drugs and even the heinous act of rape. If only Demola knew better.

Furthermore, the effects t of rape is quite lucid. The emotional wreck and mental breakdown alongside the stigma associated with rape is not one to be desired. The character of Stella in the play is a good example. To be raped is one thing, then at such a young age of fourteen is another. Not to forget she was raped by four boys who Couldn’t suppress their lustful desires, taking turns at her. That one incident almost ruined her life for good. She was exposed to a world of sexual pleasures and desires that her young mind was not ready for. It turned her once innocent self to a promiscuous one, dabbling into all of forms of immorality. Thankfully, she found her way back from what seemed to be an irredeemable situation. Also, the character of Keziah depicts the dreadful effects of rape in the play. Keziah was raped in her unconsciousness, seemingly painless but very traumatizing. The unwanted pregnancy is just one of her problems to deal with. She had to pause her education, face very disappointed parents and somehow nurture the child in her womb. Sadly, her dad constantly made her plight worse with his actions. Keziah succumbs to the pain, unable to bear her shame she opts for suicide. Thank goodness for the timely intervention of her dad and the expertise of the health care workers.

Also, the negative effects of cultism and drug use cannot be overemphasized. It is then no surprise that the writer aims to depicts the negative effect I’d these vices. Demola's character in the play is one to sight. His initial drug use in the play almost cause him an accident and later on he sniffs a white substance from KK which is assumed to be drug. This time the drug takes effect and gets goes wild. It is then to note that the use of drug doesn’t take away ones pain as Demola tried to do. Demola’s character also depicts the negative effects of cultism. His untimely death is only one of the consequences of cultism. There’s also Festula and Dargen who lost their lives due to cult activities. The expulsion of the apprehend cult members from the school is another effect of cultism. To forget KK will be inexcusable. His later end is one very clear effect of cultism. He is perceived to be the hope of his family, of his aged mother. Rather, he proved to be a dagger in her heart. He was sentenced to life imprisonment for man slaughter. Him and other apprehended cultists were given a 2 year sentence and a hundred thousand naira each. KKs sentences are all to run concurrently. His life, although not lost to the cold hands of death, is basically ruined. His end should serve as a deterrent to any youth to take up cult activities.

Equally important is the theme of social justice. One has to reap the consequences of his actions. Its then no surprise that KK and other apprehended cultists face the full wrath of the law. The defense counsel tried to mitigate their eventual punishment under the guise of remorse. However, the judge makes it clear that the judge that justice would prevail even if the heavens fall down. This is to show that the penalty for breaching the law is inescapable a d offenders should be ready to face the consequences.

Last but not least is the theme off parental neglect. In the narration of the plot, we see Demola slowly but eventually get to his untimely end. From the rape, to the drugs, to cultism one would feel he just chose the wrong path which he did but not completely. Not until the later part of the play do we see that Demola lacked the guidance of a parent in his life. His parents failed in their responsibility of guidance towards him. He lies to his parents about school accommodation and they fail to confirm such information, they just heed his demands. Demola’s parents failed to check on their son and guide their son through the right path leaving him open to unfriendly friends like KK. In pursuit if their sons financial stability they forgot their responsibility of guidance and care. Truly, the saying that it is easier to groom or mold children than to fix broken adults finds its expression here.

In conclusion, the above discussed themes are the main ideas the writer has creatively portrayed in his literary work. The book is a thorough description of some vices university life opens students to and the damaging effects of those vices. The book is truly inspiring and instructive.

Question 2:

Attempt detailed character analyses of any three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's Good Morning, Sodom.

Solomon Edebor in the play Good Morning Sodom employs various tools to pass across his message. One of which includes characters which is fundamental to drama. For this write up the characters to discourse are Keziah, Demola and Stella.

To start with, Keziah is an average height, slightly rotund young lady in her late teens. She is the mail female character in the play. Demola’s interest in the beautiful Keziah and his constant advances at her are well detailed in the play. She is portrayed as a responsible young lady from a good home. Unfortunately, she heed her friends pressure to pay Demola a visit who eventually rapes her. Her character is one seen as a private individual who according to Ovie only tells you only what she want you to know about her. Keziah’s rape leads to an unwanted pregnancy which she keeps. That decision obviously brings her education to a halt and turns the heart if her father against her. The eventual result, she decides taking her life is the best option. If not for the intervention of her father, her seemingly bright star would have prematurely been put out. Keziah later discovers that she was charmed by Demola. Ay this time, she has come to terms with her reality and her father has learnt better after her suicide scare. Keziah births Mouritha in the later parts of the play and forges on with her academic pursuit. The character of Keziah shows the dire need of support by rape victims. It also shows that unwanted pregnancy is not the end as many perceive it to be.

Another prominent character in the play is Demola. Demola is a victim of his choices, negative influence and parental neglect. He is a tall, dark, handsome young man. Demola’s choice of friend is one if his biggest mistakes of his prematurely ended life. This decision of his creates most if not all the calamities that befall him. Demola’s inability to filter the advice he gets from KK ultimately destroys him. He rapes Keziah, gets involved with drugs and joins a cult group. One can presume that Demola is a naïve and gullible fellow for him to take it all hook, line and sinker. However, one cannot completely blame it all on KK. Demola’s parents failed to put him on the right path through guidance and constant follow up. He is a true depiction of the negative effects of peer influence and parental neglect.2

Also, the character of Stella is very important on the play. She is some sort of voice of hope in Keziah’s quick crumbling life. She is also a victim of rape. Stella in her bud to pacify Keziah makes this known and narrates her ordeal. Truly her words that women are delicate flowers that get married when violently plucked, are very relatable to her life. The incident led her life to a downward spiral leading her down the path of promiscuity and immorality. Thankfully, when is saved from herself and relies to save Keziah from sf imploding. Her helpful nature is seen in Keziah’s response to Mrs. Richard on her visit. She says Stella has been of great help to her unlike her other friends. Truly, she was helpful when all came crashing down. She encouraged Keziah and when the latter collapsed due to shock she ensure d she was taken to the hospital and further invited get mother.

In a nutshell, the need for characters in drama is non negotiable and the writer has used his characters to effectively portray the message he intends to pass across. This I believe is the vices of university and its consequences at large.

Question 3:

What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of GOOD MORNING, SODOM? (Individual submission extended till First week in May. Mode of submission to be announced later).

In the literary work “Good Morning Sodom “, the published version had some differences from the movie production which would be pointed put in this write up.

The first notable discrepancy between the play and the movie is the conversation of Demola and Keziah In the second movement. In the movie, the conversation takes place in the library as opposed to outside the library in the book. Another difference is during initiation of the cult members. In the book, there were 3 members to be initiated with Demola at the centre. The movie differs as there are only 2 members initiated and Demola is already a member. In addition, the DPO is female in the book but played by a man in the movie production. Also, the death of Mrs. Diran as opposed to her being alive and well in the published version is one to point out. Also, very noticeable is the shortening of the court hearing. The elaborate speaking by the defence and the prosecuting counsel is shortened.

In light of the abovel, its is quite clear that there are certain disparities between the book and the movie production. However, the production retains he originality of the book: passing across the intended message if the author in the literature.