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#### ASSIGNMENT ON GOOD MORNING SODOM

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.

A) Five underlying thematic thrusts the drama engages.

1. Parental apathy: In my opinion, it is when parents are not actively involved in raising their children. They rear their children ineffectively, maybe with the aid of others, particularly domestic help, giving them so much freedom that it appears they are raising them without any parental guidance. Due to their parents' lack of concern, children of such parents are susceptible to influence and can get away with a variety of harmful behaviors in the home. This was depicted in the Diran home during Good Morning Sodom. Engr. and Mrs. Diran, Demola's parents, acknowledged that they overemphasized or narrowly focused on the money element of parenting while ignoring all other aspects. However, in order to raise a complete child who will succeed, you must give all aspects of wellness the proper attention, including spiritual wellness, mental and emotional wellness, physical wellness, and not just financial wellness. Securing your child's financial future is undoubtedly important. Demola's parents were obviously successful in the financial area they concentrated on. Demola came from a wealthy family and had enough of money to the point that he attracted K.K.'s interest and could persuade his parents to get him housing outside of school with nothing more than a weak fib. Demola's parents' shortcomings as parents in other areas were also obvious. Demola had two parents, but lacked parenting to the degree where K.K. could come into his life, have an impact on him, and step in as the parent Demola's parents were unable to be for him. His parents didn't parent him; they were just a financial account for him. Because Demola's moral foundation and past were weak, he was easily swayed, altered, and controlled by K.K. That is not how he was raised, so they couldn't be. It's impossible to determine if Demola would have turned out well if his parents had made every effort to raise him well. However, I believe the writer is attempting to illustrate not only all the numerous problems and influences that present in higher institutions that they must work to avoid, but also the effects that poor parenting or indifferent parenting may have on young people. If Demola had a stronger moral basis or

parents who were actively involved in his life, he might have been able to prevent some of the things that happened to him or that he did and not have felt the need to hunt for parenthood elsewhere. Demola's parents' lack of concern for him may have made him more susceptible to K.K.'s harmful influence, which caused him to rape, drug, and seduce Keziah, find housing away from school so he may be less watched, join a cult, use drugs, and ultimately meet an early death.

2. Cultism- In Nigeria's higher education institutions, this is a major epidemic. At this stage, both public and private universities in Nigeria virtually all have cult groups. A cult group is characterized as a very small organization that is often led by a charismatic and self-designated leader who unduly regulates its members and necessitates steadfast loyalty to a set of beliefs and practices that are seen as abnormal. The Red Shadows Confraternity, a cult group, is portrayed in the drama, and Demola and K.K. are among its members. Cultism must be shown in a play on moral decadence in Nigerian higher education institutions due to how widespread it has become. The drama also depicts the perilous consequences of cultism. Cultism typically needs an unshakeable devotion to aberrant views, as the definition I provided implies. Cults are thus defined by their use of violence and antisocial behaviors like drug abuse and addiction. This was demonstrated through the Red Shadows Confraternity's deeds. The group's members are obviously drug addicts; K.K., a major member of the cult, was visibly high and pushed Demola and Bentol to use drugs to cope with their emotions. They also engaged in aggressive behavior, as seen by the shootout they had with a rival gang that resulted in Demola's death. We can see the price the members of the cult paid for their behavior, which makes it apparent that cultism is depicted in the play as a harmful activity. Demola passed away, and K.K., the other cult members, and K.K. all received prison sentences, with K.K. receiving a life sentence. Even though several students were set to finish their programs, all of the members were also expelled from the institution. It is obvious that the dramatist is advising all students in higher institutions to make an effort to avoid cultism in light of the penalties that the cult members had to face as a result of their behavior and the detrimental impact it had on them, the institution, and their loved ones.

3. Unwanted Pregnancy- A pregnancy is considered undesired when the mother did not intend for it to happen or when she experiences negative feelings as a result of the pregnancy. When Keziah becomes pregnant throughout the play, we witness an example of an unplanned pregnancy. Because the child's father assaulted her, Keziah does not want to be pregnant and is upset about it. She didn't just plan or choose the child; she also didn't chose the sex that resulted in the child's conception. Keziah is a young student who is through a lot of suffering and trauma; having a child at this time would not be ideal, especially given the circumstances surrounding the child's conception. Making decisions about the pregnancy is necessary when women become pregnant but do not want to have children, which means they do not

want to bring the pregnancies to term and conceive the babies. By preventing Keziah from initially taking her father's recommendation to obtain an abortion, the author appears to have made his views on unintended pregnancies apparent. Most certainly a pro-life advocate, the dramatist opposes abortion for his own reasons. However, I merely think that mother and child should come first when making a decision. Unwanted pregnancies are obviously not ideal, and therefore, having an abortion is not the best option. Additionally, it is not ideal to bring a pregnancy to term and have a child you did not intend or want. Unwanted pregnancies are best avoided altogether because all of the alternatives are challenging and not ideal. I think the playwright was trying to convey that as well based on what I read. Young individuals should work to avoid getting married so that pregnancies can be anticipated, prepared for, and provide happiness to families. And even if they decide to engage in sexual activity, they should try to do so in a way that doesn't result in pregnancy. Preventing unintended pregnancies would stop all the problems and suffering that Keziah and her family experienced as a result of her pregnancy, as well as the changes in her life that it brought about—like forcing her to temporarily cease attending school. The play also included a message urging individuals, particularly girls, to exercise extreme caution and have little faith in others in order to avoid being sexually molested, assaulted, or raped by predators. Except for trusting Demola that she could go to his place to do an assignment without him doing anything to her against her will, Keziah did nothing wrong on her own. As a result, we should make an effort to avoid being in particular situations or positions in order to stop what can never be changed once it has already happened.

4. Drug abuse/addiction- Only cult members are depicted in this drama abusing drugs. As far as we know, none of the other characters use drugs, but I don't believe the author is trying to imply that only members of cults use drugs. In Nigeria's higher education institutions, drug usage and addiction are on the rise. Yes, it primarily affects people who already partake in sinister activities like cultism, and that was the line of reasoning portrayed in the play. But it's important to not underestimate or restrict how pervasive drug usage is in academic settings. Many students who abuse drugs do so for a variety of reasons, including being negatively affected, having the freedom and financial means to do so unhindered, being mentally unstable, or because they have been badly influenced in some other way. When talking about drug usage at higher education institutions, all of these things and more need to be taken into account. In the play, a character by the name of Nkanga (also known as K.K.) engages in drug usage, which I suppose is a coping mechanism for the bad emotions he battles with. It is also a feature of his lifestyle and the people around him because he is a member of a cult. Demola was persuaded by K.K. to join a cult and use drugs to get rid of the emotions he was experiencing after raping Keziah. We can also observe some of the negative effects that drug misuse can have; for example, I think that drug use may have contributed to K.K. and other cult members' moral decadence and lack of remorse. How can they experience regret when their substances prevent them from doing so? Yes, criminal acts like cultism must be tackled, but we must also keep in mind that the drugs that students consume either encourage or lead to participation in these nefarious activities.

5. Possibility—An underlying theme throughout this play, in my opinion, is possibility—both the idea that it might end owing to foolish choices or deeds, and the idea that it might still remain. The members of the cult enjoyed a wide range of opportunities in their lives, such as the chance to complete college and earn a bachelor's degree. However, as a result of their bad behavior, they lost opportunities for themselves. K.K. in particular received a life sentence. He will no longer be able to do anything in life outside of a prison's walls. He missed so many chances and opportunities that may have materialized if he had made different decisions. We also see the other side of this, which is that even after you make some decisions or certain things take place, potential may still exist. They have more options than K.K. do the other cult members who received sentences of merely two years in prison and a fine. They have the option to choose to put their pasts behind them and adopt new behaviors after serving their two-year sentence. The lecturers who spoke about their expulsions and cultism in the fifteenth movement acknowledged that even if they improve, the errors they had done may still have an impact on them in the future. It is still likely that individuals will in the future experience greater repercussions for their behavior, despite improvement and transformation. Because prevention is preferable to treatment in this situation, it is better to just refrain from such behaviors and lifestyles. When such errors are made, the consequences might last a person their entire life. However, they still have options in life despite this. Although this play emphasized how terrible decisions or acts might limit one's opportunities, it also demonstrated how one can still make the most of unfortunate circumstances. This was evident in Keziah. Keziah became pregnant at a bad moment for her, and the circumstances around the baby's conception were equally unfavorable. This strained the relationship between Keziah and her parents, especially her father, who didn't want her to have the child. She dropped out of school as a result, and she felt so depressed that she made an attempt at suicide. Her daughter was eventually born into a happy home, and her parents even gave Keziah the chance to return to school, finish her education, and still be a good mother to her daughter. However, her relationship with her parents, particularly her father, was able to be saved. It demonstrates that anything is possible and that nobody is ever completely finished or unimprovable. Even K.K., who will spend the rest of his life in prison and cannot, as I previously stated, improve or have opportunities outside of a prison, demonstrated character growth. He expresses regret for his conduct in his conversation with Engr. and Mrs. Diran, Demola's parents, demonstrating that he is growing morally aware as opposed to when he was only morally decadent.

B) Three characters in Solomon A. Edebor's *Good Morning, Sodom*.

K.K.

During his trial, we witnessed K.K.'s mother's condition. She is a widow, thus K.K. is

fatherless, as we learned. He might have grown up without a father or been fatherless his entire life. Any man who has never had a father may struggle with discipline and direction or may lose control out of grief or loss. K.K. comes from a poor family since his mother, who is also in need, roasts plantains on the side of the road only to send him to school. After the death of K.K.'s father, their house could only fall into disrepair, indicating that it had previously been prosperous before going from riches to rags. The first thing we think of when we see how impoverished Nkanga's mother is is that he is a nasty boy to misbehave in school knowing how his mother is trying to pay for his education, but there is also the sense that he is also poor and that he struggles with that. Nkanga must have arrived at school in poverty and observed other children who had access to resources and privileges that inspired envy and avarice. This might be one of the key motives for his joining the Red Shadows Confraternity, a cult.

He singles out Demola and tries to get closer to him since he notices Demola is from a wealthy family, which demonstrates his passion or strong interest to money. In his recounting of their friendship to Demola's parents, Engr. and Mrs. Diran, he made this statement. K.K.'s drug use is evident throughout their association with Demola. K.K. most likely began using narcotics either before or after entering the cult, and his addiction was made worse by his membership. Any bad thoughts he could have had about losing his father, coming from a low-income family, etc. are wiped away by drugs. When he instructed Demola to take drugs to erase his guilt for raping Keziah, we could tell that he thought of drugs as a solution to stop experiencing any unpleasant emotions. From this, it may be inferred that K.K. had likely been abusing narcotics to numb uncomfortable emotions. Drugs are expensive, and maintaining an addiction or dependent on them costs a lot of money or a regular stream of a solid salary. A boy from a low-income family like Nkanga must have had the access or financial means to maintain his drug use while living in the cult. Given his impoverished beginnings, the K.K. cult life may have seemed to provide him a good existence and all he could ever want. As a member of the cult, K.K. would also have access to authority, influence on campus, and a "big boy" lifestyle that he would not otherwise have had. He was wealthy, powerful, and drugged. He probably wouldn't have given the repercussions of his conduct a second consideration while leading this seemingly glamorous and comfortable existence. Even when K.K. encourages Demola to rape Keziah while high on drugs and charms (which he supplied), it is clear that he had become profoundly morally depraved before his consequences hit him. It was obvious that his morality and conscience no longer held sway over him or controlled his life. He simply ignored others' feelings and did what he wanted. He was obviously motivated by the feeling of pleasure. His conscience only returned to him after he unintentionally killed his best friend Demola, a decision that severely touched him. Nkanga finally shows signs of regret as he recounts all the harm he did in influencing Demola incorrectly, sending him down the wrong path, and ultimately sending him to an early grave after facing the repercussions of his deeds. We can infer from KK that one will always experience the consequences of their acts, no matter how long it takes, and that we shouldn't be sucked into the fleeting pleasures that terrible deeds provide us, especially if they harm others.

Keziah: The protagonist of the book Good Morning Sodom is Keziah. She goes by

Keziah Richard in full. She studies at the Mayflower University and is a 100-level student. Keziah is a well-respected, intelligent young lady. She regularly attended her classes. Demola, a young man, admires Keziah for being a good girl. He shown a lot of interest in her, but she didn't return the favor. She thinks she went to school to read, pay attention, and get good grades. Demola attempts to persuade her to accept him as a close friend, but she refuses, ignoring his calls and forbidding them from meeting. Demola still worries that although though he exhibited care during the time she went for home without telling anybody, he was only being kind to acquire her for her body. When her pals Ovie and Bunmi object that she is treating Demola a little too harshly, she persists and kills the gist, but she later gives it some thought. Later, Keziah decided to give Demola another chance and went to his apartment outside of school to ask him for help with the assignment while she was under pressure. However, Demola drugged her and used her as a guinea pig while also utilizing her body for sex. She swears to veer away from him after she comes to regret trusting him. After receiving the tragic news of Demola's passing, the woman collapsed and had to be taken to the hospital, where a pregnancy test was performed on her. Her parents are disappointed to learn that she was 9 weeks pregnant for Demola. Due to the pregnancy, she was expelled from the university and her father started treating her brutally. Later, she made an attempt at suicide to put an end to the suffering, but she was saved before the medicines could take effect. She was pardoned by her parents and given permission to give birth to the child, a daughter named Mouritha. She was expelled from the school and relocated to the University of Ibadan, where she began at level 200 and lived off campus with Chineye, who looked after her kid.

### Demola

This figure serves as a good illustration of the harm that inattentive parents and peer pressure can cause, especially to young university students. Demola's parents didn't check him frequently enough or even get to know him well enough to recognize whether he was lying, so he could get away with anything by simply lying. Because, as they acknowledged, they gave the financial component of parenting priority over all other expectations at the expense of these other aspects, his parents didn't get to know him very well. They were disregarding every other element of parenting Demola and raising their child while securing Demola's financial future, which is still a good thing, of course. So, it is safe to assume that Demola had a shaky or weak moral orientation that could be easily influenced due to his childhood and the way he was raised. If he has a stronger moral foundation, it might have been harder for K.K. to influence him. Demola fell to peer pressure and had the financial means from his parents to take things even further- he could get a nice place off campus so he was even less monitored and he could afford drugs or even help the cult financially. I believe Demola could have just been looking for a sense of belonging, like K.K. told Demola's parents, he became Demola's parent in the way his parents were not. K.K. influenced Demola to do horrible things like rape Keziah and use drugs, actions that may not have been in Demola's original character. Demola paid for the actions he let

himself be influenced to do with his life and left a child he forced into a girl's life behind. We can learn from Demola's life that parents cannot allow the financial aspect of their lives as parents to overshadow all other aspects as they are all just as important in raising a child. To raise a complete child that will do well, all the aspects involved in raising a child must be giving enough attention. And that the results are the same whether you do something because you wanted to or because you were persuaded to. Demola asserts that his friend's pressure forced him to rape Keziah even though he didn't really want to and that he still impregnated her despite his friend's encouragement. In the scenario where Nkanga instructed him to use drugs, he demonstrated resistance as well, but he ultimately gave in to the pressure and utilized the drugs. He also might not have wanted to be a violent cultist and only joined the cult for K.K. but he was a cultist all the same and this led him to his grave. SSSThe irony that the same person who led Demola down this path (K.K.) being the same person to kill him is also not lost on me. It can be said that the person who leads you down a bad path leads you to an early grave. In Demola and K.K.'s case, the playwright, Dr. Solomon A. Edebor simply made the saying literal.

3. What are the points of divergence between the published and the film version of Good morning Sodom.

1st Movement:

No difference

2nd Movement:

i. In the film Keziah did not tell Demola the reason she was going to the library but in the published she told him.

ii. In the film Demola did not ask if he could escort her but in the published he asked her.

3rd Movement

i. In the film Dr. Yusuf did not name the Nigerian scholars while in the published he mentioned.

ii. In the film there was a scene of two students walking into his class late but got sent out.

iii. In the film Dr Yusuf had a scene requesting from the class if they had any question and greeted good day while in published he greeted good morning.

iv. In the film Demola had a scene where he was sited behind Bunmi and Ovie but did not ask if having a word with them will take much time while in the published Demola asked the question ahead.

4th Movement

No difference

#### 5th Movement

No difference

#### 6th Movement

i. In the film Keziah only picked her phone but did not identify who messaged her but in the published she said it out loud.

ii. In the film Demola did not ask if her phone was android or iPhone but in the published he asked.

iii. In the film there was no scene of Keziah shouting Mogbe-e-e-e neither was she shown picking her clothes but in the published it was shown.

iv. In the film when Stella was narrating her rape story she did not say where the boys were hidden when she entered the room but in the published she said they were hidden behind curtains.

v. In the film Stella did not say she lost consciousness and saw herself in the hospital but in the published she said.

vi. In the film there was no scene of Stella waking up from the dream while in the published there was.

vii. In the film there was a scene of Emmanuella meeting Stella when she was drying her clothes outside while in the published there wasn't.

#### 7th Movement

i. In the play Demola remained silent but K.K remained where he sat while in the published it was the opposite.

#### 8th Movement

i. In the film a different song from the song in the published was sang during the initiation of new members.

ii. In the film Demola was already in Red Shadows but in the published he was being recruited.

iii. In the film two men were to be recruited newly while in the published there were three men.

#### 9th Movement

In the film there was no scene of the shooting between the two cult groups but in the published there was a scene about that.

#### 10th Movement

In the film there is no scene of Mrs. Richard crying while in the published there is a scene.



#### 11th Movement

No difference

#### 12th Movement

No difference

#### 13th Movement

i. In the film the officer brought in 4 students with K.K while in the published there was no scene.

ii. They identified the DPO as a sir but in the published they identified the DPO as ma

#### 14th Movement

i. In the film Dr Richard called her to pick the letter on the table which there was no book but in the published there was a book.

ii. In the film Mrs. Richard was not in the scene for Keziah to turn to but in the published she was there.

iii. In the film the scene of Dr Richard complaining of how Keziah disgraced their family name was not seen but in the published it happened.

#### 15th Movement

i. In the film the movement stopped at where Nonso said this incident will rob them of getting to certain places in life while in the published it did not end there.

#### 16th Movement

i. In the film the scene started with Keziah going to open the door for Mr. Richard while in the published it didn't start like that.

ii. In the film Mrs Richard asked who was at the door while in the published she did not ask.

iii. this statement said by Mr Richard "how do you prove your point to me when you have chosen to keep the memory of a boy that impregnated our daughter and suffered ignominious death there after". Was said in the published and not in the film.

iv. This statement said by Mr Richard "The last thing I want to hear is a homily on how to be a good father" was said In the published but not in the film.

v. In the film there was a scene of Mrs Richard coming to console Keziah in the room but in the published this did not happen.

#### 17th Movement.

i. In the film this scene started from the judge passing judgement to the cultists after a prosecution counsel said the judge should temper justice with mercy while in the

published the whole scene happening in the court was stated.

#### 18th Movement

i. In the film after Mr Richard ended the call he did not tell Patrick to turn the car around the scene just moved to him entering the house but in the published he told Patrick.

In the film the 20st movement was acted before the 21st movement then back to the 19th movement

#### 19th movement

i. In the film there was no picture from Demola to give his parents but in the published there was .

ii. in the film only film only Engineer Diran came to Agobi Prison while in the published both parents came.

#### 20th movement

No difference

#### 21st movement

i. In the film it was acknowledged that Mrs Diran was late but in the published she was alive.

There was a scene of Keziah being in labor in the house before she was taken to the hospital

#### 22nd movement

i. In the film there was no scene of Dr. Hanson helping Keziah with giving birth but in the published there was

#### 23rd movement

I. In the film they named their daughter Heritage Demola-Diran but in the published she was named Mouritha.