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Matric no: 22/MHS01/193

AFE 122

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

Solomon A. Edebor's play, *Good Morning, Sodom*, is a powerful commentary on the social and political realities of Nigeria in the 1980s. The play explores various themes that are relevant not just to Nigeria, but to many developing countries around the world. Here are five underlying thematic thrusts that the play engages:

1. **Corruption:** One of the main themes of the play is corruption, which is shown through the actions of the characters. The play portrays a society where corruption has become the norm, and where those who resist it are marginalized and oppressed. This theme is particularly relevant to Nigeria, where corruption is a pervasive problem that has hindered the country's development.
2. **Power:** Another theme that the play explores is power and the abuse of power. The characters in the play are all vying for power, and they are willing to go to any lengths to achieve it. This theme highlights the dangers of unchecked power, and the negative impact it can have on society.
3. **Gender:** The play also touches on the theme of gender, and the ways in which women are oppressed in Nigerian society. The female characters in the play are all victims of patriarchal oppression, and they are denied agency and autonomy in their lives.
4. **Religion:** Religion is another theme that the play engages with, as it shows how religion can be used to justify and perpetuate oppression. The characters in the play are all religious, but their actions are often in direct opposition to the values that their religions espouse.
5. **Resistance:** Finally, the play explores the theme of resistance, as the characters struggle against the various forms of oppression that they face. The play shows that resistance can take many forms, from individual acts of defiance to collective action and solidarity.

Overall, *Good Morning, Sodom* is a powerful and thought-provoking play that engages with a range of important themes. It offers a searing critique of Nigerian society, while also highlighting the ways in which oppression and resistance are universal themes that are relevant to people all around the world

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

Solomon A. Edebor's *Good Morning, Sodom* is a satirical play that presents a scathing critique of the political, economic, and social realities of contemporary Nigeria. The play is populated by a diverse cast of characters, each of whom represents a different aspect of Nigerian society. Here are detailed character analyses of three of these characters:

1. **Chief Dagogo:**

Chief Dagogo is a powerful and wealthy Nigerian businessman who is one of the primary targets of Edebor's critique. Dagogo is portrayed as an amoral and self-serving individual who has amassed his wealth through corruption and exploitation. He is the epitome of the Nigerian elite, who

use their positions of power to enrich themselves at the expense of the masses.

Dagogo's character is significant in the play as he represents the deep-seated corruption that is pervasive in Nigerian society. Through his character, Edebor exposes the rot at the heart of Nigeria's political and economic systems. Dagogo's ultimate downfall in the play is a symbol of the potential consequences of such corruption and exploitation.

## 2. Mama Risi:

Mama Risi is a street hawker who is also a central character in the play. She is a tough and street-smart woman who is trying to eke out a living in the harsh realities of Lagos. Mama Risi is a symbol of the resilience and resourcefulness of the Nigerian people, who are forced to adapt to the difficult circumstances they find themselves in.

Mama Risi's character is also significant in the play as she represents the grassroots of Nigerian society. She is a voice for the millions of Nigerians who are marginalized and ignored by the country's political and economic elites. Her story is a reminder of the struggles that many Nigerians face on a daily basis.

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## 3. What are the points of divergence between the written and film version of Good Morning Sodom?

Solomon A. Edebor's *Good Morning, Sodom* was adapted into a film in 2014 by Nigerian filmmaker, Stanley Ohikhuare. While the film remains faithful to the themes and general plot of the play, there are several points of divergence between the two versions. Here are some of the key differences:

### 1. Narrative structure:

One of the significant differences between the written play and the film version is the narrative structure. The play is structured as a series of interconnected vignettes that explore various aspects of Nigerian society. In contrast, the film has a more linear narrative structure, with a clear storyline that follows the character, Haggai, as he navigates the challenges of living in Lagos.

### 2. Characterization:

The film version of *Good Morning, Sodom* features some new characters, and some of the characters in the play are portrayed differently. For example, the character of Mama Risi, who is a central character in the play, is a minor character in the film. In contrast, the character of Haggai is given a more prominent role in the film, and his backstory is explored in more detail.

### 3. Tone and style:

The play is a satirical work that uses humor and irony to critique Nigerian society. In contrast, the film version of *Good Morning, Sodom* is a more somber and serious work. The film's cinematography and visual style are also quite different from the play, with the film featuring more cinematic shots and a more polished look.

#### 4. Setting:

The play takes place in various locations across Lagos, with each scene presenting a different aspect of Nigerian society. In contrast, the film version of *Good Morning, Sodom* is primarily set in a single location, a slum in Lagos. The film uses the setting to explore the harsh realities of life in Lagos and the challenges that the characters face.

Overall, while the film version of *Good Morning, Sodom* remains true to the themes and general plot of the play, it is a distinct work that diverges from the play in several key ways. The film's more linear narrative structure, somber tone, and different characterization all contribute to a unique cinematic experience that is different from the written play.