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ASSIGNMENT:

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

Some themes that can be found in this play include:

- i. Peer Pressure
- ii. Bad Parenting
- iii. Cultism
- iv. Death
- v. Love

i. **PEER PRESSURE:**

Peer Pressure can be best defined as a feeling that one must do the same thing as other people of one's age and social group in order to be liked or respected by them. This is the case of Demola in the play, *Good Morning Sodom*. Demola was pressured into joining the cult group, Red Shadows Confraternity by his friend KK all because he wanted to have a way with Keziah. This act prompted Demola into joining the cult and that led to his untimely death. Also, Keziah never wanted to go to Demola's apartment in the first place. But with time, she began to soften up to him due to the pressure she got from her friends, Ovie and Bunmi, who are also her course mates. Another place where the theme of Peer Pressure can be found in this play is when KK pressured Demola into drugging Keziah. and also how KK convinced and pressured Demola into living off campus.

ii. **BAD PARENTING:**

Bad Parenting can be described as when the parents of a particular ward does not perform their parental duties towards the upbringing of their ward. This can have a long lasting impact on the child's life. This can also greatly affect the child when he or she begins to grow. This is due to the fact that the child did not get the major or correct words of advice or encouragement from his parents while growing up. The child then begins to seek these things or words from an outsider. The theme of Bad Parenting in the play can be best explained with Demola's life. Due to the fact that Demola's parents were only concerned with the financial part of his life, that is why he was easily convinced and lured into the secret cult by KK. Towards the end of the play, it is seen where Eng. and Mrs. Diran are regretting their actions in their son's life

and how they could have been more involved in their son's life.

iii. **CULTISM:**

A cult is a secret society which is not open to everybody. Cultism is an act of belonging to a secret cult in an educational institution. These cult members come together for certain purposes that might not be approved by other people. Most times, they use dangerous weapons to kill or harm rival groups. Cultism always has a major negative impact on individuals and on the society. Cults use manipulative tactics to recruit members and then they have maximum control over their lives. This is specially the case of Demola in the play. He was heavily convinced by KK to join the cult group that led to his demise. The theme of Cultism is very vital and important in this play because it is practically what led to the climax of the Play. The name of the cult group in the play is called The Red Shadows Confraternity. Majority of the members of this cult group lost their lives when they attacked their rival group and that was when all things were let loose in the play.

iv. **DEATH:**

Death can be defined as the end of an organism's life. It is a natural part of the life cycle that can be very difficult to deal with especially when it happens with someone we really care about. In the play, *Good Morning Sodom*, the death of Demola and other cult members brought about realization, regret, grief and many other emotions. It is true that death is natural, but that of Demola is very far from natural because he was unintentionally/accidentally shot by his own friend and fellow cult member, KK. The death of Demola made his parents realize how absent they've been in their son's life. However, this should honestly stand out as an eye-opener for most African parents to always keep a keen eye on their wards.

v. **LOVE:**

What is Love? Love is said to be a complex emotion that can take many different forms. Love can also be referred to as a feeling of deep affection and connection to another person or one's self. The forms in which love can take include; romantic love, platonic love and familial love. Now, in this play, we can say that what Demola had for Keziah can be referred to as romantic love because his type of love came with a desire for closeness and attraction. If the love Demola had for Keziah was true, he would wait for it to come naturally instead of going the extra mile by drugging her. Also, the theme of Love can also come in with the type of love Keziah's parents had for her. In as much as she disappointed them with the pregnancy, they still did not give up on her. This shows unconditional love.

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

Some characters in the play, '*Good Morning Sodom*' by Solomon A. Edebor include:

- i. Keziah
- ii. Dr. Richards
- iii. Demola

i. Keziah:

She is the story's main character and is an only child in university. At the beginning of the story, she has parents who love her tremendously and a very tight small circle of friends. She is a young woman with very strong values, particularly towards males on campus. Although she is constantly pestered by a boy on campus who claims to have deep feelings for her she gives him no might repeatedly saying she didn't come to school to play around. Eventually, with persuasion from her close friends, she befriends him, leading to her biggest regret. Her so-called friend drugs charms and rapes her. She becomes very distraught that the only boy she has trusted betrayed her for her body. She hates the fate that he even existed and became friends with her. Things only get worse for her as her parents find out she is pregnant. Her parent's relationship with her becomes very bitter. Even though she tries to explain herself she is perceived to be untrustworthy. With her parents' mistrust, she becomes very depressed and tired of her life she would try killing herself and would have succeeded if not for her parents' intervention. Sing how deeply she regrets her life and how will most sushi is to try and kill herself her parents forgive her and accept the baby, they even make provisions for her to make to go back to school. This makes her very grateful to her parents because she never believed she should be able to return to school. She's a character who falls from grace to grass and is a lesson to young Nigerians carrying a critical role throughout the storyline.

ii. Dr. Richards: He is a major character in the story being the parent of the main character(Keziah). He is a prominent figure in society and loves his only daughter tremendously but is always very busy. He is shaken and furious when he takes his daughter to the hospital to find out she is pregnant. He believes it is a big shame to his family His behavior towards her becomes very cold. He completely blames his daughter for being careless and getting pregnant. He dislikes her so much stating he doesn't even have a daughter anymore. Although his wife urges him to forgive her he refuses even plotting to get an abortion for the evil growing in her stomach he too knows the dangers of getting an abortion but still wants to have it. When his daughter tries to commit suicide he has a change of heart and rushes to save her from dying because deep down he still holds her dear. He eventually accepts the baby and even further down the line makes provisions for her to continue her studies with the baby. A big turn point for Dr. Richards is when he finds out his daughter is pregnant because it Brings so much shame to his family that he even fills like disowning her. But with his only daughter almost dying of remorse he changes his heart and accepts her again.

iii. Demola: He is a handsome university student at the same university as Keziah. His parents are always busy securing finance for him to go to school and have not been monitoring him too much. For most of the story he is madly attracted to Keziah using every opportunity to try and become friends with her but she constantly brushes him aside. Due to this he becomes disheartened and meets up with his close friend Kk, a cultist, who plants very bad habits in him such as the use of drugs, rape, and cultism. He eventually gets a chance with the girl of his dreams by convincing her friends that he is a good person. He uses this golden opportunity to drug and rape her after being influenced by his friend. But after he does so Keziah, no surprise, hates him and laments the day they first met. With his angel fully resenting him, Demola becomes very disappointed in himself but his friend KK cheers him up and offers drugs to him which he accepts because he is very low at the moment. Eventually, he ends up joining a cult: the Red Shadows. Unfortunately, he dies tragically in battle by friendly fire but before he dies he remembers his parents and sends KK a final message to them. Demola is the major cause of problems in this story. He suffers from peer pressure and falls from being a bright student to a cultist. His behaviour shocks his parents and they believe it is because they didn't monitor him he became that way.

3. What are the points of divergent between the written and the drama version of Solomon Edebor's 'Good Morning Sodom'?

1. In the third movement, the film version had a scene where Dr. Yusuf was interrupted by some late students before continuing his lecture, while in the book, the lecture was uninterrupted.
2. In the third movement, the film version shows Demola asking Ovie about Keziah while sitting in the class, while in the book version, it was written that Ovie follows him to a corner to ask about Keziah.
3. In the book, when Stella was about to share her story with Keziah it was written that she moved over to the window side and looks to the distance whereas in the film, she was sitting on a bed beside Keziah while narrating her story.
4. In the book, it was written that Stella woke up from a dream then Emmanuella enters, but in the film version, Emmanuella coming to meet Stella was another scene.
5. In the book version, Demola was one of the three new members initiated into the Red Shadows cult group, but in the film version, it was seen that there were only two new members being initiated and Demola was already part of the cult group.
6. In the book version, it depicted the DPO as a female while in the film version,

the DPO was seen to be a male.

7. In the fifteenth movement, the film version had a scene where Mrs. Richards was consoling her daughter Keziah in her bedroom, but in the book version, there is no scene of such.

8. In the book version, the seventeenth movement showed a detailed court session between the Prosecution Counsel and Defence Counsel, while in the movie, the court session was brief then skipped to the judgement by the judge on the case.

9. In the film version, it was said that Demola's mum was dead while in the book version, Demola's mum was alive.

10. In the film version, the name of Keziah's daughter, Heritage Demola - Diran was shown, but in book version, it was not.

11. In the film version, the twenty third movement was not shown but rather, it was written that Keziah transferred to University of Ibadan.