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CLASS: SS1

DATE:10/05/2024

ADDMISSION NO.: DS/2023/73

QUESTION 1: EXAMINE THE THEME OF DICTATORSHIP IN THE PLAY ONCE UPON AN ELEPHANT.

The theme of dictatorship is seen in how Ajanaku, when he becomes king, refuses to listen to advice and always wants to have his way on all issues. Inordinate ambition is portrayed in how Ajanaku plots to make himself king even when he is not the legitimate one, as he is not the first son of the dying king Baderin is.

QUESTION 2: DEFINE PROVERB AND WRITE DOWN TEN PROVERBS IN THE PLAY.

PROVERB are well known sayings that offer guidance or advice while they also declare a well acknowledged fact or universal truth.

10 PROVERBS :

#"Akinjobi's sun up there in the sky is about to set" referring to the impending death of the king.

#Anger our fathers says is the brother of hopelessness

#The snake that travels alone gets killed by the hunter

#do not out of anger rename yourself (referring to our action as our identity)

#Whoever wishes to die a decent death should live a decent life.

#The lizard may resemble a crocodile but they are certainly different.

#I seat on the throne but it is you who holds the rope and the hook in your hands.

#Her pride was taken

#Is caressing a dead body not better than killing it?

#but what exactly does a lion do to creepers and thorns, and bushes and thickets and a whole lot of forest of trees standing in its way?

QUESTION 3: COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE CHARACTER OF OLANIYONU AJANAKU AND SERUBAWON

CHARACTER OF OLANIYONU AJANAKU:

Ajanaku also known as Olaniyonu, the Tyrant King, Ajanaku (Elephant) is a self-proclaimed mighty who is single-handedly enthroned with the veneration of the Olubori rites by Serubawon, who manipulates the kinship process, in spite of the open disagreement between some of the prominent kingmakers because the reigning king, Oba

WHILE

CHARACTER OF SERUBAWON

This is personified by the character of Serubawon who is supposed to be a patriotic elder of the village. He becomes the accomplice and tool used by King Ajanaku both for his enthronement and perpetuation in power. He betrays and schemes the other chiefs out while embarking on these nefarious/heinous activities.

QUESTION 4: COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE CHARACTER OF IYA AGBA

CHARACTER OF IYA AGBA

Iya Agba is the wife of the former King, Akinjobi. She becomes the lone voice that pricks the throat of the elephant. Her constant visits to the palace make Ajanaku to become uncomfortable as she castigates Ajanaku's illegal throne. Iya Agba can be referred to as duex-ex-machine who helps to resolve the knotty issue of dictatorship in the play.

WHILE

CHARACTER OF OMOYEMI

She Omoyemi, is the wife of Ajanaku also known as Olaniyonu, the Tyrant King, who had earlier dated Delani, a poor youth who had slaved for

Omoyeni's father, Ajasa, the blacksmith, in return for the daughter's hand in marriage.