

Correction of the Exam Paper : Théâtre Africain / 2020 – 2021

Part One

I- The correct answer

- 1- D
- 2- D
- 3- A
- 4- B

II- Give four elements, four features and four types of drama.

Elements of Drama:

1. **Plot**: The sequence of events in a story.
2. **Character**: Individuals portrayed in a play, their development, and interactions.
3. **Setting**: The time and place where the story occurs.
4. **Theme**: The central idea or message conveyed in the drama.

Features of Drama:

1. **Dialogue**: The spoken interactions between characters.
2. **Conflict**: The central struggle or tension that drives the story forward.
3. **Symbolism**: The use of symbols or metaphorical elements to represent deeper meanings.
4. **Stagecraft**: The theatrical elements, including lighting, costumes, and set design.

Types of Drama:

1. **Tragedy**: A serious form of drama dealing with the downfall of a protagonist due to a character flaw or external circumstances.

2. **Comedy**: A lighthearted and humorous form of drama often involving mistaken identities, witty dialogue, and happy resolutions.
3. **Tragicomedy**: Blending elements of both tragedy and comedy, presenting a mix of serious and humorous situations.
4. **Melodrama**: A sensational dramatic piece with exaggerated characters and emotions, often featuring clear heroes and villains and a moral conflict.

Part Two

Topic : To what extent can we state that Ananse in the Land of Idiots is a play which can be viewed as an allegory of the colonial history of Africa.

"Ananse in the Land of Idiots" by Yaw Asare can indeed be viewed as an allegory of the colonial history of Africa to a significant extent. The play uses post-colonial and post Afro-centric theories to symbolically represent various sectors and institutions in Africa.

The character of Ananse, the trickster, can be seen as a metaphor for the colonizers who manipulated and exploited the people and resources of Africa. Ananse's misrepresentation of the history of Dim-nyim-lira, for instance, criticizes Europe and the West for their intentional misrepresentation of African histories to their favor, to win the heart of the people and to advance their exploitation schemes. This is a clear reflection of the postcolonial theory's war against the intentional misrepresentation of the identities of colonized nations.

The play is a literary attempt at waging a war on European and Western imperialists who continually make life uncomfortable for the minorities, colonized, and the marginalized. This mirrors the real-life struggle of African nations against colonial rule and their ongoing fight against the effects of neo-colonialism.

In conclusion, "Ananse in the Land of Idiots" serves as a powerful allegory of the colonial history of Africa, highlighting the manipulation, exploitation, and misrepresentation that characterized this period.