

Semester 5 Questions - Answers

==> Answer to the Topic: "Discuss socialisation in the novel Joys of Motherhood by Buchi Emecheta.

--+-| "Answer "

"The Joys of Motherhood" by Buchi Emecheta delves into the intricate web of socialization, where Nnu Ego's character is intricately woven into the fabric of Nigerian society. From a traditional perspective, Nnu Ego undergoes socialization into the role of a mother, where societal expectations dictate her worth and fulfillment.

The novel portrays how cultural norms shape Nnu Ego's identity, emphasizing the weight of motherhood as a source of pride and validation. The societal pressure to bear children, particularly sons, defines her role within the community and highlights the significance of lineage and family ties.

As the narrative progresses, Emecheta skillfully introduces the clash between traditional and modern influences, showcasing the evolving nature of Nigerian society. Nnu Ego grapples with the changing roles of women, shifting from traditional expectations to the emerging opportunities in a rapidly transforming world.

The novel's exploration of socialization extends beyond gender roles, touching upon broader issues of colonialism and its impact on cultural values. Nnu Ego's experiences mirror the tensions between tradition and modernity, portraying the struggles of individuals caught in the crossfire of these societal shifts.

In summary, "The Joys of Motherhood" offers a poignant portrayal of socialization, unveiling the layers of influence that shape Nnu Ego's character. Through her journey, the novel provides a lens into the multifaceted dynamics of Nigerian society, where tradition, modernity, and colonial legacies converge in the complex tapestry of socialization.

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==> Answer to the Topic : Discuss "why did George kill Lennie" in the Novella Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck.

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In John Steinbeck's novella "Of Mice and Men," George, Lennie's closest companion, faces a heart-wrenching decision to end Lennie's life. The circumstances leading to this moment are crucial in understanding George's actions.

Lennie, a physically powerful yet mentally challenged individual, unintentionally causes harm due to his inability to understand his own strength. Throughout the story, Lennie accidentally kills animals and, tragically, Curley's wife, unaware of the consequences of his actions.

George recognizes that Lennie's actions have dire consequences and that he is incapable of comprehending the gravity of what he has done. He also knows that Lennie's death is inevitable, whether by the hands of others seeking revenge or by the authorities. George faces a painful dilemma: either allowing Lennie to face a brutal and likely unjust punishment or taking matters into his own hands to spare Lennie from suffering.

Ultimately, George's decision to kill Lennie is a tragic act of mercy. He chooses to end Lennie's life himself, ensuring that Lennie dies with love and kindness, sparing him from a harsher fate. It's a devastating decision for George, who not only loses his closest friend but also grapples with the moral weight of his action.

George's act of compassion is emblematic of the difficult choices and moral complexities portrayed in the novella. It speaks to the themes of friendship, sacrifice, and the harsh realities of a world where the vulnerable are often at the mercy of an unforgiving society.

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==> Answer to the "questions about Discourse Analysis"

- 1-) what is the difference between text analysis and discourse analysis.
- 2) explain the expression fonctionnaliste views of language.

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- 3) explain the expression formalist view of language.
- 4) what is the difference between formalist view of language and structuralist views of language?
- 5) which distinction does David Numan make between text analysis and discourse analysis?

--+-| "Answer "

1) Text analysis focuses on dissecting individual texts, exploring linguistic features within them. It zooms in on sentences and paragraphs, mostly ignoring broader contexts like social or cultural influences. On the other hand, discourse analysis studies language in action, examining how it operates in larger communication events. It considers social, cultural, and historical contexts, exploring language's role in shaping meaning and power dynamics.

2) The functionalist view of language sees language as a tool for communication and social interaction. It focuses on how language serves various purposes in real-life situations, emphasizing its role in expressing meaning, building relationships, and achieving communication goals within specific contexts. This perspective highlights the dynamic nature of language, its ties to social structures, and how linguistic forms adapt to different situations and cultures.

3) The formalist view of language concentrates on the structure and rules of language itself, focusing on elements like grammar, syntax, and sounds. It sees language as a self-contained system with internal patterns, often analyzing it independently of meaning, context, or social influences. This perspective emphasizes abstract representations and linguistic rules rather than broader communication or social aspects of language.

4) The formalist view of language emphasizes the internal structures and rules of language, focusing on elements like grammar, syntax, and phonetics as a self-contained system. It often analyzes language independently of meaning, context, or social factors.

Structuralist views of language, on the other hand, explore language as a system of signs and symbols within a broader cultural context. Structuralism examines the relationships between elements in language, considering how they form larger structures and patterns. It looks at language as a part of broader systems, including

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social and cultural contexts, emphasizing the interconnection between language and society.

In essence, while both approaches study language structure, formalism focuses on internal linguistic rules, while structuralism considers language within wider cultural frameworks.

5) David Nunan distinguishes text analysis from discourse analysis based on their focus and scope:

Text analysis primarily concentrates on examining individual written or spoken texts at the sentence and paragraph level, analyzing linguistic features within a confined unit.

Discourse analysis, however, broadens the scope, considering language in use beyond individual sentences, examining how communication extends into larger events, interactions, and contexts. It explores language's role in shaping meaning and social dynamics within various communication settings.

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==> Answer to the questions concerning Discourse Analysis.

--+-| "Answer "

16. Text analysis involves examining and interpreting written or spoken texts at the level of individual sentences and paragraphs, focusing on linguistic features, structures, and meanings within a confined linguistic unit.

17. The logical function of language refers to how language conveys logical relationships and connections between ideas or elements within discourse, aiding in the coherent expression of thoughts, arguments, or information.

18. Famegrounded information refers to the foregrounded or emphasized information within a discourse, often the main or highlighted content that draws attention or significance within a communication context.

Here is a sentence example for a clear understanding :

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Sentence: "The alarming rise in pollution levels demands immediate action."

Explanation: In this sentence, the phrase "The alarming rise in pollution levels" represents the foregrounded information. It's emphasized to draw attention and highlight the central concern, signaling the urgency for action regarding the rising pollution levels.

19. Background information comprises the supporting or contextual details within a discourse, providing supplementary information that complements or contextualizes the main content or foregrounded information.

Here is a sentence example for a clear understanding :

Sentence: "Studies conducted over the past decade have consistently shown the adverse effects of prolonged exposure to air pollution."

Explanation: Here, the phrase "Studies conducted over the past decade" provides background information. It supports the context by offering previous research findings, establishing a foundation for understanding the current discussion about the impacts of air pollution.

20. Conjunctions are linguistic elements that connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences, aiding in the coherence and flow of discourse by indicating relationships such as addition, contrast, cause and effect, etc. (Examples of Conjunctions : Also, Besides, In addition, Whereas, Instead, due to, because, as a result, therefore...)

21. "Who" and "what" of Paul Gree refer to the identities of speakers and the content or substance of discourse analysis. "Who" refers to the individuals involved in the conversation, while "what" pertains to the topics, themes, or contents of the discourse being analyzed. Explaining these aspects involves considering both the participants and the substance of the conversation.

30. Baxter and Hammersley, Wooffitt and Wetherell, and the Feminist Kitzinger present various criticisms within conversation analysis.

Baxter and Hammersley critique conversation analysis for oversimplifying complex social interactions and overlooking broader contextual factors. They highlight the risk

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of reducing intricate human exchanges into systematic structures, urging researchers to consider the richness of interactions and the influence of wider social contexts in communication. Baxter and Hammersley point out the possible oversight of broader contextual factors within conversation analysis. They argue that focusing solely on the micro-level structures of conversation might neglect the larger social, cultural, or historical contexts that significantly influence communication dynamics.

Wooffitt and Wetherell emphasize the importance of context in conversation analysis, highlighting that interactions are shaped by broader social, cultural, and power dynamics. Their critique argues for a more nuanced analysis that considers the influence of context on communication (Interactions between people), beyond just examining micro-level structures of conversation.

Feminist Kitzinger's argument supports the inclusion of information beyond the immediate conversation data in analysis. She contends that considering broader context, including societal norms and power dynamics, is essential for a comprehensive understanding of conversations. This approach acknowledges that conversations are influenced by external factors and advocates for incorporating this broader context into conversation analysis. Kitzinger's critique focuses also on the feminist perspective within conversation analysis. She emphasizes the need to recognize and analyze gender and power relations inherent in discourse. Kitzinger's work encourages a deeper exploration of how gender dynamics influence and are shaped by conversation, advocating for a more inclusive and gender-sensitive approach in conversation analysis.

For this last question, read the part "Criticisms of Conversation Analysis" in your handout to understand more also.

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==> Answer to the "Topic : The way George kill Lennie can be considered as individualism or socialism ?"

--+--| "Answer "

The way George handles Lennie's death in John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" can be interpreted from both individualistic and communal perspectives.

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From an individualistic viewpoint:

- George's decision to personally end Lennie's life might be seen as a decision driven by his own sense of responsibility and care for Lennie. He takes it upon himself to spare Lennie from a potentially harsher fate, believing it's his duty to protect his friend.

From a communal or social perspective:

- Alternatively, George's action could be viewed as influenced by communal considerations. He takes responsibility for Lennie's death to protect him from potential cruelty or mistreatment by others. In doing so, he prevents a situation where societal norms or authorities might harm Lennie, showing a form of communal protection.

The interpretation depends on how one analyzes George's motivations. Both perspectives can be supported by the text, highlighting the complexity of the character's actions and the various ways they can be understood in terms of individualism and communal care.

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==> Answer to the question "1/ Analyse the following conversation to show the influence of gender On the discourse. What is the gendered identity of A ? What is the gendered identity of B? comment.

A:No, I refuse i will not do it.

B:we shall see who wears trousers in this house."

--+-| "Answer "

A's gendered identity, being a woman, contrasts with the traditional power dynamics implied by B's statement. The phrase "who wears the trousers" historically signifies dominance or control, which aligns more with a traditional male role within the household. Therefore, this conversation highlights a clash or challenge against traditional gender roles, where B attempts to assert control in a manner typically associated with masculine authority, despite A being a woman.

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It's an interesting example of how gendered expressions can imply power dynamics within a conversation, showcasing the influence of gender on discourse and the traditional societal expectations tied to it.

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==> Answer to the question "Consider the following utterance "I now declare this session of the UN Human rights council Open" Who is the probable speaker in the quoted utterance ? What is the logic of power in the utterance ? Make comment."

--+-| "Answer "

In the realm of Discourse Analysis, the utterance "I now declare this session of the UN Human Rights Council open" signifies a powerful act enacted by a figure of authority within the council, such as the president or chair. By declaring the session open, the speaker isn't merely describing a state of affairs but is actively performing an action that has institutional consequences. This statement holds significance beyond description; it's performative, initiating the session and showcasing the speaker's institutional power. It reflects both the individual's authority and the collective autonomy of the council, highlighting the performative nature of language in institutional settings and emphasizing the symbolic weight of such declarations in shaping and legitimizing proceedings.

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==> Answer to the "Topic: Using characters, characterization and the setting, show that Okoli's *A Daunting Odyssey* is a womanist novel or is promoting complementarity among men and women."

--+-| "Answer "

"A Daunting Odyssey" by Chinwe F. Okoli is a novel that delves into the struggles of an African girl, Ijem, who faces early marriage, identity crises, abuse, and extreme

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poverty. The narrative portrays the harsh realities and societal attitudes towards women, particularly in impoverished settings.

The novel can be considered womanist for several reasons:

- Characters & Characterization: Ijem, the protagonist, represents resilience and strength, common traits celebrated in womanist literature. Her journey and the challenges she overcomes highlight the importance of female empowerment and agency.
- Setting: The setting of the novel, which reflects a society with crude and ugly attitudes towards women, serves as a backdrop against which Ijem's story unfolds. It underscores the need for societal change and the recognition of women's rights and roles.
- Themes: The novel addresses critical issues such as gender-based violence, identity, and the impact of poverty on women, aligning with womanist themes that advocate for the well-being and liberation of women.

Womanist literature often emphasizes the idea of complementarity among men and women, advocating for equality and mutual support. All these illustrations showcase a clearer picture of how the novel embodies womanist principles and promotes complementarity between genders.

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==> Answer to the "Topic : Relying on some characters in the novel, show that Okoli's A Daunting Odyssey is challenging patriarchal assumptions in the fictional Africa."

--+-| "Answer "

Okoli's A Daunting Odyssey is a story about the struggles of a young African girl named Ijem, who had to battle issues beyond her age. The novel exposes the crude and ugly attitudes of society, especially the mishandling of some of the critical issues which

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confront a typically impoverished family, and how that impoverishment impacts on a girl child that is caught up in that messy cesspool.

One of the characters in the novel, Ijem's mother, is a strong-willed woman who challenges the patriarchal assumptions of the fictional Africa. She is a single mother who is determined to provide for her children despite the challenges she faces. She is a hardworking woman who is not afraid to speak her mind and stand up for what she believes in. Her character is a symbol of hope for women who are struggling to break free from the shackles of patriarchy.

Another character in the novel, Ijem's grandmother, is also a strong woman who challenges the patriarchal assumptions of the fictional Africa. She is a wise woman who is respected by the people in her community. She is a healer who uses traditional medicine to help people. Her character is a symbol of the power of women in African societies.

These characters show that Okoli's *A Daunting Odyssey* is challenging patriarchal assumptions in the fictional Africa by portraying strong women who are not afraid to challenge the status quo. The novel is a powerful message to women that they can break free from the shackles of patriarchy and achieve their dreams.

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==> Answer to the "Topic : To what extent can Okoli's *A Daunting Odyssey* be deemed as promoting gender equity in the fictional society ?"

--+-| "Answer "

Chinwe F. Okoli's *"A Daunting Odyssey"* can be deemed as promoting gender equity to a significant extent. The novel presents a compelling narrative that exposes the societal mishandling of critical issues, particularly those affecting impoverished families and the girl child. Through the protagonist Ijem's struggles with early marriage, abuse, and poverty, the book highlights the resilience and agency of female characters in a patriarchal society.

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The story challenges traditional gender roles by showcasing women as active participants in their own lives, capable of making decisions and taking actions that defy societal expectations. This portrayal not only questions the patriarchal values but also emphasizes the importance of women's roles in ensuring family survival, often with minimal support from men.

By focusing on the experiences and challenges faced by Ijem and other female characters, "A Daunting Odyssey" contributes to the discourse on gender equality and the transformation of oppressive patriarchal values in African societies. The novel's narrative serves as a powerful tool for advocating for gender equity and empowering women to take control of their destinies within the fictional society.

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==> Answer to the "Topic : Show how culture and literature are closely linked in Achebe's Things Fall Apart."

--+-| "Answer "

"Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe is a classic novel that explores the intricate relationship between culture and literature. In this work, Achebe weaves a rich narrative that not only provides a profound insight into the Igbo culture but also demonstrates how literature can serve as a powerful medium for expressing, preserving, and challenging cultural norms. Here are some key points highlighting the close link between culture and literature in "Things Fall Apart":

1. Cultural Representation:

Achebe employs literature as a means of representing and preserving the Igbo culture. Through vivid descriptions, traditional proverbs, and rituals, the novel becomes a window into the customs, beliefs, and social structures of the Igbo people. The language and narrative style reflect the oral traditions of the Igbo, emphasizing the interconnectedness of literature and culture.

2. Use of Proverbs:

Proverbs play a significant role in both the cultural and literary aspects of the novel. Achebe incorporates numerous Igbo proverbs into the narrative, and these proverbs serve as carriers of cultural wisdom, values, and norms. The characters use proverbs

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to express themselves, making the novel a repository of cultural sayings that contribute to the authenticity of the story.

3. Challenges to Cultural Norms:

Through the characters and events in the novel, Achebe subtly challenges certain aspects of Igbo culture. The protagonist, Okonkwo, embodies traditional masculinity and adherence to cultural norms, but his tragic flaws also serve as a critique of the rigid expectations placed on individuals within the society. This exploration of cultural complexities adds depth to the narrative and encourages readers to reflect on the dynamics between literature and culture.

4. Impact of Colonialism:

"Things Fall Apart" explores the impact of colonialism on Igbo culture, providing a historical and cultural context for the narrative. Achebe uses literature to depict the clash between traditional values and the imposition of Western ideologies. The novel serves as a critique of colonial forces that disrupt and dismantle the existing cultural order, emphasizing the role of literature in documenting such transformative periods.

5. Oral Tradition and Storytelling:

The novel embraces the oral tradition of storytelling, a vital aspect of Igbo culture. Characters often share myths, legends, and histories orally, emphasizing the importance of narrative in passing down cultural knowledge. Achebe's use of storytelling within the novel aligns with the broader African literary tradition that values oral narratives as integral to cultural identity.

In "Things Fall Apart," culture and literature are inseparable, with literature serving as a vehicle for cultural expression, critique, and preservation. The novel not only reflects the richness of Igbo culture but also demonstrates how literature can be a powerful tool for engaging with and interpreting the complexities of cultural dynamics.

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==> Answer to the question "More explanation about Anthropocentrism."

--+-| "Answer "

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Anthropocentrism refers to a perspective or worldview that places humans at the center of importance or consideration, often viewing the world and its various elements in relation to human interests and values. Thus, Anthropocentrism can be seen in works that prioritize human experiences, concerns, and perspectives.

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==> Answer to the questions about the course Environment and Literature.

--+--| "Answer "

1. What is literature?

- Literature refers to written or spoken works, especially those considered to have artistic or intellectual value. It encompasses a wide range of creative expressions, including novels, poetry, plays, essays, and more.

2. What are the elements of literature?

- The elements of literature include plot, setting, characters, theme, point of view, style, tone, and symbolism, among others. These elements contribute to the overall structure and meaning of a literary work.

3. How many types of literature do you know?

- Literature can be broadly categorized into two main types: Oral literature and Written literature.

4. Give the difference between oral and written literature.

- Oral literature is transmitted verbally through speech or performance, often within a community. It tends to be dynamic, allowing for variations. Written literature, on the other hand, is recorded in written form, making it a fixed and stable medium.

5. What are the major forms of literature do you know?

- The major forms of literature include prose (novels, novellas, short stories), poetry, drama (plays).

6. What is a poem, and what are the different types of poems that you know?

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- A poem is a form of literary expression characterized by rhythmic and imaginative language. Different types of poems include sonnets, haiku, free verse, ballads, and limericks, among others.

7. What is a Sonnet? How many types of Sonnet do we have? Can you name them?

- A sonnet is a 14-line poem. There are various types of sonnets, including the Shakespearean (or English) sonnet, the Petrarchan (or Italian) sonnet.

8. In poetry, what do alliteration and assonance mean?

- Alliteration is the repetition of initial consonant sounds in neighboring words, while assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds within nearby words.

9. State clearly the difference between Prose and poetry by mentioning their characteristics.

- Prose is written or spoken language in its ordinary form, without metrical structure. It typically follows grammatical and syntactical rules. Poetry, on the other hand, is characterized by a heightened use of language, often with rhyme, rhythm, and figurative devices. It adheres to a specific structure and form.

10. What are the different forms of prose that you know?

- Different forms of prose include novels, novellas, short stories.

11. According to you, what is a short story, a novel, a novella?

- A short story is a brief work of fiction that typically focuses on a single plot and a limited number of characters.

-A novel is a longer work of fiction with a more complex narrative and character development.

-A novella falls between a short story and a novel in terms of length and scope.

12. Compare and contrast a novel and a drama.

- A novel is a work of fiction in prose that explores characters, plot, and themes in a detailed and expansive manner. Whereas, A drama, or play, is a form of literature designed for performance, involving dialogue and actions performed by actors on a stage. Novels provide more internal insights into characters, while dramas emphasize external actions and dialogue.

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13. What are the different types of dramas that you know?

- Different types of dramas include tragedy, comedy, farce, and tragi-comedy, Burlesque.

14. What does the following mean to you: literacy, anthropocentrism, and empiricism?

- Literacy refers to the ability to read and write.

- Anthropocentrism is the perspective that places humans at the center of importance in the world.

- Empiricism is the philosophical approach that emphasizes knowledge gained through sensory experience and observation.

15. What is the difference between fiction and nonfiction? Give two examples of each type.

- Fiction is imaginative and not based on real events, while nonfiction is factual and based on real events.

- Examples of fiction include "Novels, short-stories, novella".

- Examples of nonfiction include "Biography, Memoirs, Crafting Books, Cook Books".

16. How do you define Environment?

- The environment refers a space or a field in which networks of relationships, interconnections and interactions between entities occur.

17. What are other elements that you know and which refer to the Environment?

- Other elements related to the environment include ecosystems, biodiversity, climate, pollution, natural resources, and sustainability.

18. What is Ecocriticism? Ecofeminism?

- Ecocriticism is a literary and cultural theory that examines the relationship between literature and the environment.

Ecofeminism is a branch of ecocriticism and emphasizes the independence of all life.

19. Name other literary theories that you know?

- Other literary theories include liberal feminism, Marxism, Poststructuralism, Psychoanalysis, Postcolonialism, and Structuralism, .

20. What is culture? What is nature?

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- Culture encompasses the beliefs, customs, arts, and social institutions of a particular group of people.
- Nature refers to the natural world, including the physical environment, ecosystems, and non-human life forms.

21. What difference do you establish between the cultural and the natural?

- The cultural pertains to human-made aspects, including beliefs, traditions, and social constructs. The natural refers to elements not created by humans, such as landscapes, ecosystems, and non-human life. The distinction is often used to differentiate between human-influenced and non-human-influenced phenomena.

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==> Answer to the Question "Can we find Ecocriticism Hemingway's the Old man and the Sea" ?

--+-| "Answer "

Ecocriticism, which is the study of the relationship between literature and the natural environment, can be applied to "The Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway. This novella features a strong connection between the protagonist, Santiago, and the natural world, particularly the sea. Santiago's struggle with the marlin and his deep respect for the creatures of the sea can be analyzed through an ecocritical lens.

The portrayal of the sea as both a provider and a force to be reckoned with, the detailed descriptions of marine life, and the themes of man's place in the natural world all offer rich material for ecocritical analysis. Additionally, Santiago's philosophical reflections on his place in the universe and his interactions with various sea creatures provide a basis for exploring human-nature relationships and environmental ethics within the text.

Analyzing "The Old Man and the Sea" from an ecocritical perspective can shed light on Hemingway's treatment of nature, the ocean, and the broader environmental concerns within the novella.

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==> Answer to the questions about the course American Novel.

--+-| "Answer "

- 1) Title "Of Mice and Men": Steinbeck chose the title after a poem by Robert Burns, highlighting themes of vulnerability and impermanence.
- 2) Incident in Weed: Lennie touched a girl's dress, was accused of rape, and they fled town to avoid trouble, foreshadowing later events.
- 3) Carlson shooting Candy's dog: Carlson shoots Candy's old, sick dog to end its suffering, reflecting the harsh reality of life and foreshadowing George's later choice.
- 4) Curley's attack on Lennie: Curley attacks Lennie out of anger and a desire for dominance, revealing power dynamics among the workers.
- 5) George killing Lennie: George kills Lennie to spare him from a worse fate at the hands of others, illustrating the harsh choices in their desperate situation.
- 6) Lennie's dead mouse: Lennie keeps a dead mouse due to his love for soft things, foreshadowing his unintentional destructive nature.
- 7) **Lennie's differences:** Lennie is childlike and mentally challenged, requiring George's care and protection.
- 8) Traveling together: George and Lennie travel together due to a long-standing friendship and mutual benefit.
- 9) Curley's glove: Curley wears a glove filled with Vaseline to keep one hand soft for his wife, revealing his insecurities and attempts at dominance.
- 10) Lennie's puppy's death: Lennie unintentionally kills his puppy due to his inability to control his strength.
- 11) Lennie killing Curley's wife: Lennie accidentally kills Curley's wife when she panics during a struggle, highlighting his lack of control.

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12) Crooks's isolated room: Crooks has a separate room due to racial segregation, reflecting the broader issue of racism in society.

13) Curley's wife's unnamed identity: Curley's wife remains unnamed, symbolizing her lack of independence and societal role.

14) Slim's role at the ranch: Slim is the head mule driver, a respected figure, and a leader among the ranch workers.

15) Dream farm after Lennie's death: George and Candy abandon the dream of buying a farm after realizing it's no longer feasible without Lennie.

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==> Answer to the "Topic : Show that the inhuman treatments inflicted to widows in Baya Adebawale's Lonely Days become a driving force for these widow's self-realization".

--+-| "Answer "

In Bayo Adebawale's "Lonely Days", the inhuman treatments inflicted on widows are indeed a driving force for their self-realization. The novel presents a vivid picture of the harsh realities faced by widows in Kufi village, a suburb in Yoruba land.

The protagonist, Yaremi, is a widow who experiences various forms of ill-treatment from her kinsmen and the villagers after the demise of her husband, Ajumobi. These treatments include excessive stigmatization, baseless accusations, grave suspicions, and deep-rooted allegations that she is the cause of her husband's demise.

However, amidst these unpleasant circumstances, Yaremi emerges as a symbol of resistance against societal dominance. Her unshaken refusal to abide by the custom and tradition of her society makes her distinct from other widows. This defiance can be seen as a form of self-realization, as she asserts her individuality and refuses to be subjugated by societal norms.

Moreover, the novel suggests that it is essential to secure special interpersonal relationships with widows for their well-being. This implies that the society's attitude

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towards widows needs to change, and they should be treated with compassion and respect.

In conclusion, the inhuman treatments inflicted on widows in "Lonely Days" do become a driving force for their self-realization, as they navigate through their hardships and assert their individuality in the face of societal oppression.

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