



School Mate®

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Class: _____

Subject: G.V / P.L.

School: _____

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LEAVES

1. Can truth be arrived at through fiction.
2. If fiction is unreal story how can it inspire morality as a guide to human action?
3. Literature can provide great insights to the understanding of philosophy. True or false.
4. Death and the King's Horseman was a real-life event rendered into drama by Wole Soyinka. Discuss how metaphysics is lived out in the cosmology and belief system of the Yoruba people.
5. With reference to Things fall apart by Chinua Achebe demonstrate the interplay between ethics and anthropology in the life of the man that was the main character of the novel (Okonkwo).

1. Can truth be arrived at through fiction.

Outline

1.0. Introduction

2.0. Meaning of fiction

3.0. Meaning of truth.

4.0. How we can arrive at truth through fiction.

4.1. The Bible

4.2. Secular writings and literary forms.

5.0. Conclusion.

Introduction.

When people write or tell stories, they do not always center or make use of true life stories or events. Most times stories come in the form of imageries in the mind of the writer. Certain questions arise as result, such as can truth be found in such imaginary stories (fiction). This question would be addressed as follows;

Meaning of fiction

Fiction is a deliberately fabricated account

of something. It is a literary work based on imagination rather than on fact. Fiction can also be defined as any forged writing or story. It is a message that often times passes across truth but which did not necessarily happen as a true event. Fiction can also be in the form of play.

Meaning of truth

Truth refers to a fact or reality. It can be described as any statement which has been proven to be true beyond reasonable doubt. Truth is arrived at through verification, however there are certain truths which can not be verified, for instances truths about God and divinity. Truth plays a central role in philosophy and it is built around theories such as correspondence theory, Coherence theory, pragmatic and phenomenological theories.

How we can arrive at truth through fiction.

In order to arrive at truth in ~~a~~ if any form of fiction, one should look to know whether the fiction exhibited sufficient depth as to be able to capture correctly aspects of human nature and human behaviour, questions of morality and foundations of ethics, insights into metaphysics, worldview, cosmology, origin of the world or man's sense of meaning. It is to the extent that a fiction makes these things clear and evident that would determine how compelling the truth value is.

There are basically two forms of writings through which we can use to arrive at truth. They include (1) The Bible
(2) Secular writings and literary forms.

THE BIBLE.

In the bible, there are certain stories which are told but they may not have necessarily happened but are told used for didactic purposes. However, a strong note should be taken that not every story in the Bible is a fiction. Nevertheless, we are going to see

some of these fictitious stories used in the Bible and the knowledge truth which we can deduce from them. They are:

(A) Story of Job.

The story of Job in the Bible portrays a man who was called Job, he was a friend of God. However God allowed him to undergo some trials in order to test his fidelity. As he was going through those trials of his life, he remained steadfast in his belief in God. In this story, we can deduce truth from it which is that our friendship with God does not mean we will not face difficulties in our lives. Also virtues such as faith, steadfastness, trust, hope and patience can be learnt from the character of Job.

Story of Jonah.

The story of Jonah is a biblical fictitious story of how Jonah fell into the belly of a whale on his bid to escape from obeying the instructions of God. This story portrays God is being both merciful

and just. He has both the face of mercy and the face of justice. This, he portrayed towards Jonah and also towards the people of Nineveh to whom the messenger was sent. Hence from this we have derived truth from this fiction.

The story of Cain and Abel.

This biblical fictitious story tells about how Cain killed his brother Abel as a result of envy and on-
economy. God punished him because of his actions.
Through this story we arrive at the truth that envy or jealousy is wickedness and could lead one to a disastrous acts which are punishable by God.

The feeding of the five thousand.

Secular writings and literary forms.

This is the domain of fiction. It could appear in the form of poetry, fables, stories. It is in the mind of the author. Nevertheless, we ask the questions can we arrive at truth through these secular writings. This can be portrayed on the following writings.

(a) Half of a yellow sun - Chimamanda Adichie.

In this fictitious novel see the story of the Nigerian civil war between the Biafrans and the Nigerians. It recounts the experience of the war in an imaginary form, showing the hardship and the pains involved with wars.

In this story, we arrive at the truth of pain and the plight people pass through during war such as loss of life, properties, jobs, hunger and sickness.

(b) Things fall Apart.

The story in the novel things fall apart depicted the cultural life and tradition of

the Igbo people. It centered around the character Okonkwo a renowned man in the village but was killed by fear of failure which drove him to his death. The truths depicted in the story include the virtues of courage, hardwork and bravery as well the consequences of such vices as fear, anger and anger.

Conclusion.

It is quite confusing and a matter debate to know whether fiction has a truth value. However I believe that these fictions contain truths that are factual on reality. Using philosophy we can critically analyze these fictions and draw out the truth in them.

If fiction is unreal story how can it inspire
morality as a guide to human action.

Outline.

Introduction

Meaning of fiction

Meaning of Morality

How fiction Can inspire Morality

Conclusion.

INTRODUCTION :