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**GODFREY OKOYE UNIVERSITY**

**AN**  
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USE OF ENGLISH IV

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## QUESTION

Identify atleast 5 symbols(people, objects and actions) in the short story “The Dead Men’s path” and discuss what they signify

## ANSWER

The 5symbols in the short story “The dead Men’s path” are as follows

1. The Path
2. The church
3. The Headmaster’s Garden
4. The Ancestor’s Shrine
5. The Pregnant Woman

1. **The Path:** The path symbolizes tradition, culture, and the connection between the past and the present. It represents the ancestral heritage of the village and the villagers' respect for their ancestors.
2. **The Church:** The church symbolizes modernity, change, and the imposition of foreign values. It represents the conflict between traditional beliefs and Christian teachings.
3. **The Headmaster's Garden:** The garden symbolizes order, control, and the attempt to impose Western values on the village. It represents the headmaster's desire to "civilize" the villagers.
4. **The Ancestor's Shrine:** The shrine symbolizes the villagers' connection to their ancestors and their cultural heritage. It represents the villagers' resistance to change and their desire to hold on to their traditions.

5. **The Pregnant Woman**: The pregnant woman symbolizes life, fertility, and the continuation of tradition. She represents the future of the village and the hope for a new generation that will carry on the cultural heritage.