

I would like to know if I am on the right track with my analysis of "Your cattle are plundered by Isaac W. Wauchope."

Research on the Poet (Please advise if we refer to him as an author or Poet?)

- Born in 1852. Died in the Mendi Disaster when the steamship sank in 1917, killing 646 people mainly black South African troops. Isaac was an interpreter on the ship.
- He served almost two years in prisoner for assisting a colleague as a lawyer (Derails are vague though)
- Member of the Eastern Cape African Elite.
- Congregational minister
- Political Activist
- Historian Poet
- The poem was a conclusion to a letter to he wrote to Isigidimi SannaXosa that encouraged a petition for the release of the Xhosa chiefs that were imprisoned on Robben Island.
- This was due to the struggles of black rights urging that they fight with pen and ink opposed to weapons of war.

Poem

- consist of 3 stanzas made of 6 lines each
- No Rhyming words

Stanza 1

- "Cattle" – Symbol that is both literal and figurative
- People has been confiscated by the enemy. The victors of the pass used to dispossess the vanquished of their wealth.
- The poet wants his countrymen/women to recover their lost heritage, material and other wealth.

Stanza 2

- Line 1 – refers to their lost heritage, material and wealth.
- Line 12 – No force should be used during this recovery.

Stanza 3

- involves the countryman/women to critically think and analyses the situation. Then confront reality with truth. Their argument must be based on reality, truth, substance, sense. Emotions should give way to reasoning's.

Theme

- Diplomacy
- Modern day righting
- loss of land (main grievance of Africans)
- Colonial Oppression

Tone

- Calm
- Emotional
- Aggressive
- Rational Thinking

Style

- Shows modernity – Using paper and ink to put ones point across appose to violence.

Setting (I am confused with the setting)

- Somewhere in the Cape Town. This was based on the assumption of the Hoho mountain and the Poet writing for the motivation of releasing the chiefs from Robben Island.

Conflict

- Immediate and impulsive response to colonial oppression

Rhythm (Not sure)

Stanza 1

- Chaos – “After Them! After them!” chasing after someone “Muskets”
Contributes to the chaos of arms and ammunition

Stanza 2

- Rushed
- “Grab” hurried movement
- “Load it” associated with loading a fire arm which also represents a rushed movement.

Stanza 3

- Calm and diplomatic
- ‘Engage your mind’ - Almost like a warning to say think carefully
- “Focus on facts” – To be specific, truthful and diplomatic
- “Don’t rush into battles” – A calm mind is a clear one
- “Anger stutters” – A reminder of the consequences of anger.

Speakers Identity

- Black oppressed poet

Imagery

- The imagery created is a battlefield.
- Sense of darkness and decay - The word "Plundered" (verb) can mean so many different things eg. Pillage, Loot, rob,raid,ransack,strip,fleece,ravage, devastte, maraud, sack, rape

Immediate Imperatives

- "After them! After them!"

Imperialism depicted through 2 metaphors

- "Your cattle are plundered, compatriot"
- "Your rights are plundered"

Other Metaphors

- Pen representing a weapon. "fire with your pen"
- Ink representing a bullet. "load, load it with ink"
- Page representing a Whiteman in charge. "Put pressure on the page,"

Understanding certain words

- "Musket" – Is a light gun with a long barrel fired from the shoulder.
- "Hoho" – A mountain on the Eastern Cape. Rarabe purchased this mountain from the original Khoisan chief Hoho
- 'Stutters' – Verb: Stammer, stumble, falter, flounder, hesitate, pause, blunder, splutter
- Compatriot – Countrymen/women fellow citizen
- Diplomacy – Art of dealing with people in a sensible tactful way

Irony

- "Put pressure to page." – A page is generally white with black script.
- One can assume that the irony in this is that the black citizens (Script) are putting pressure onto the white leaders (Page).

Any suggestions on what line 10 means

"Stir in your chair"

1. Introduction: A key concept in this course was colonialism. However, in your introduction, you state that Nyasha was influenced by this but you do not define it! You must define key concepts. Otherwise, the examiner may think you don't know what a colonial experience is. I know this sounds basic but it is important that your markers see that you can engage with key concepts. Review all key concepts from the module. You also do not tell the reader of your essay who Nyasha is. The marker may believe you think the book is about Nyasha. You need to state who she is in the book. This does not have to be detailed. You could just say, "... the character Nyasha, Tambu's cousin who grew up overseas and now rebels against the culture she lives in, has been influenced by ..." The point of the introduction is to introduce

the reader of your essay to everything you will discuss in your essay. You also do not have a proper thesis statement. The thesis statement is the last sentence of the introduction and previews the main points of your essay. I will post a video on this later on tonight. Please watch it.

2. You do not interrogate your quotes which shows a lack of critical reading. You must explore and engage with your source material. Here is an example from your second paragraph:

One of these incidents is when Tambu just arrived at the house and Maiguru is apologising for Nyasha's bad manners with not greeting Tambu properly: "They are too anglicised", "They picked up all these disrespectful ways in England."

You then end your paragraph without explaining these quotes. What do they mean? What do they tell us about Nyasha? You must interrogate all the quotes you use. Show the reader why you have used them.

3. You do not keep the main point in the forefront of the essay. This is the colonial experience and the key terms. Make a list of all the key concepts and which set work each applies to. Use these words in your essays. Define them and interact with them.

I hope this helps. The most important thing is to review key concepts.