

Sangam SKM College Nadi

Year 11

English

Worksheet 2 Solutions

Writers write ideas that revolve around central ideas. With reference to “The Waste Land” by Alan Paton and “Ajaiyi and the Witchdoctor” by Amos Tutuola, an idea expressed by the authors and the techniques used to express these ideas will be discussed in this essay.

To begin with, the main idea expressed in “The Wasteland”, is separation and betrayal. Freddy betrays his own father and he is even prepared to take his life. It shows how people can sometimes betray their loved ones. As a result, Freddy gets separated from his family and this to a large extent is due to peer pressure and the fact that his is a violent robber. For instance, while trying to rob his own father, he gets killed by his own father. His father says, “the world is dead”

Alan Paton uses emotive vocabulary and figurative expressions to create the mood of danger, fear, suspense and anger. Examples of emotive vocabulary include “dark street” and “wilderness” and the example of figurative expression include “like a wild thing in his breast” to portray the danger that Freddy’s father is in.

Moreover, the main idea expressed in “The Ajaiyi and the witch doctor” is that we should not lie and cheat others. As Ajaiyi trusted the witchdoctor and the witchdoctor cheated him and at the end he loses all his money. Secondly all problems in life cannot be solved through witchcraft. Like Ajaiyi thought that the witchdoctor will free him from his poverty but he gets poorer.

A technique used by Amos Tutuola is concise language. This is used to help readers get the message easily. For example, “pawn, poverty”, this helps in conveying the message of poverty of Ajaiyi and his father.

Thus, the themes of betrayal and poverty are very well conveyed by both the authors using emotive vocabulary, figures of speech and concise language. Such stories are important because it gives important ideas about life.