FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

2ND SEMESTER 2021

ASSIGNMENT 1

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF WORLD POETRY 2B
TPP621S
Dear students

Short feedback on your assignment.

Most students did well with this assignment. Question one was well answered and most students got 10 marks per question.

1) How is imagery used to emphasise the message of the poem? [10 marks]

The imagery in this poem appeals to the senses of the reader to enable him to experience and appreciate what the poet is talking about.

Examples are “...the bleatings and the moos”, “...the acrid smell of cow dung” and “the city tarmac, where taxis threaten my feet”

2) How are the city people different from the people in rural areas according to the poem? [10 marks]

This poem makes a clear distinction between city people and people from rural areas. City people live a fast paced life and they chase after money, yet they are lazy and can’t walk a kilo. This lifestyle is bad for the poet as it makes his “bloodpressure rise”. The poet favours a slower rural lifestyle where one can appreciate nature and “listen to the bird melodies”.


3) What does the speaker mean when he says “In the city … people want to scream but they can’t” ?

[10 marks]

In the city people are not free to do as they please. Noise will disturb the neighbours and cause them to complain. The other reason people can’t scream is because no one will listen to their scream (plea for help/frustration etc) because everyone has their own problems etc

QUESTION 2 (35 MARKS)

- Compare and contrast the following poems, paying particular emphasis to the main theme of the poems and how the poet carries this theme across to the readers.

This question went well in general. It is clear that both are about “reconciliation”, but they have entirely different attitudes.

Molopong sees reconciliation as something that has been forced on him against his will. He sees it as “an insult” to the black community. He feels there will be a negative and violent result because of reconciliation being forced on people “Once anger snaps/
Death will claim through pain…” He also uses violent imagery like “Reconciliation has been/Pushed down my brain/Like gunpowder in a barrel”

The most serious problem with reconciliation, he feels, is that he has been made to lose his identity and pride in his “blackness”.
Nghifikua, on the other hand, has a much more positive attitude to reconciliation. He is encouraging all races and groups to work together for everyone's benefit “united we stand, divided we fall”.

There are many examples from each poem clearly portraying the poets views. You should make constant references to them (including the line references!!! Not like I have done here)

Make sure you have compared and contrasted!

Compare:
- Both have the same theme

BUT

Contrasts are more

- Their approach is different in style
- Their views differ on the effect of reconciliation
- Molopong seems to be inciting readers not to believe in reconciliation by his violent imagery and arousing rhetoric
- Nghifikua uses calm rhetoric which motivates readers to support the policy for everyone’s benefit.

All this had to be woven into a well considered essay where you give EQUAL attention to each poem.

Good luck with assignment 2

AB