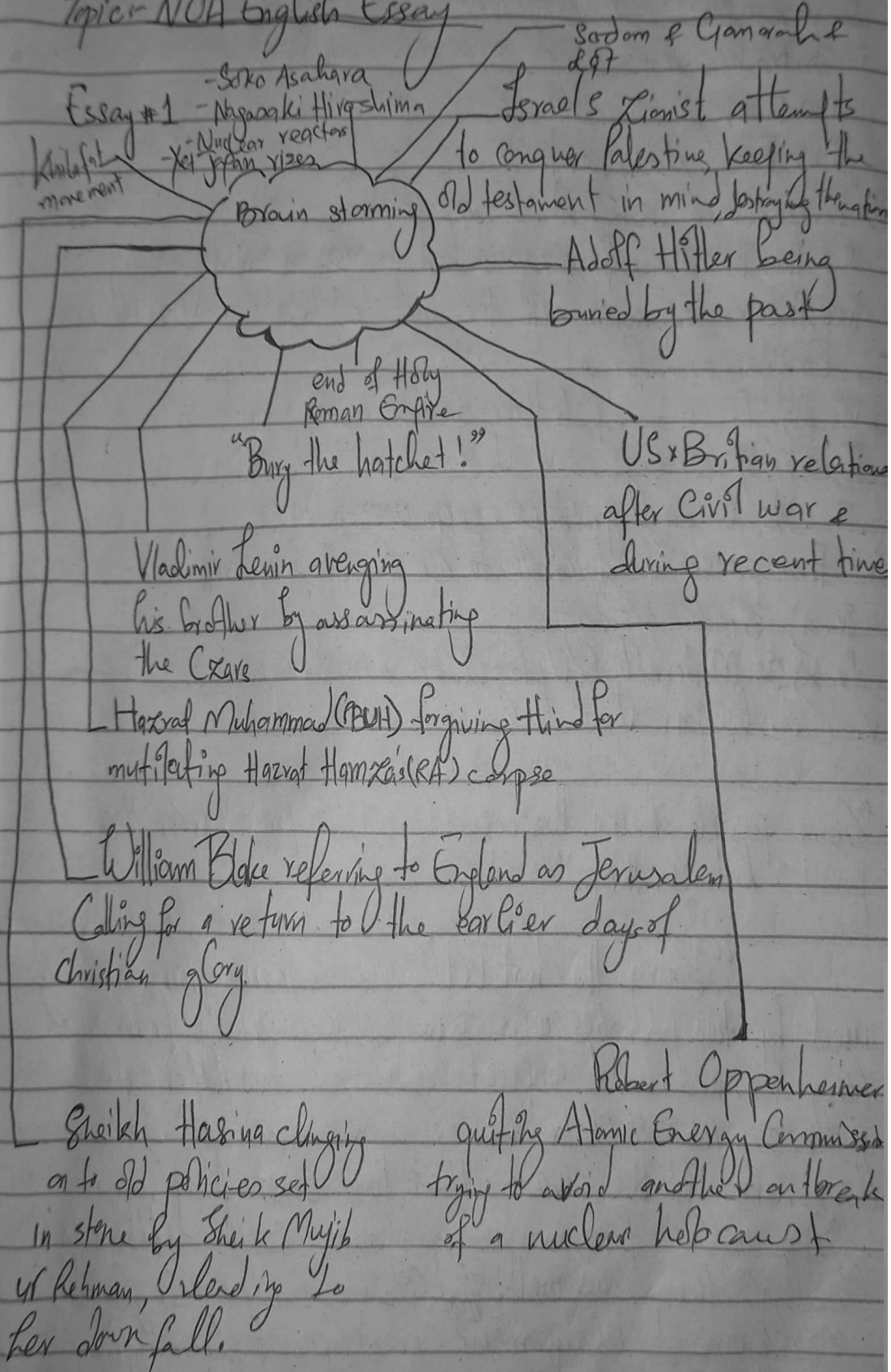


10/28/2024

Topic - NOA English Essay



Overview

i. Introduction

i a) Hook

i b) Thesis statement

ii. "Revenge is a dish best served cold"

ii-a) How the desire for vengeance led to rise in power

ii-b) How an obsession with the past led to self destruction

iii. Forgive and forget

iii-a) The art of letting go and moving on

iii-b) Diplomacy

iii-c) Is holding grudges even worth it?

iv. From personal turmoils to rise & fall of nations

iv-a) State ideology

iv-b) Is Modernity a plague or a medicine? mention section here

v. Conclusion

"Some people bury their past, while for others, the past buries them"

"Bury the hatchet", an idiom often commonly used by two parties who have grown weary from long unresolved conflicts and are now interested in peace. They "shake hands and make up" because they are well aware that the past they've clung on to for so many years will ultimately "bury" them as well. Shakespeare, England's renowned playwright and poet from the vivid Elizabethan era, has beautifully portrayed in his play "Hamlet"; how one's obsession with

past can lead to one's own self destruction. Hamlet, upon figuring out that his father was assassinated by his own uncle, treads the path of self destruction which eventually leads to mass murder and ~~but~~ heart breaks.

In the aforementioned paragraph, it has been mentioned over and over again, how one's willingness to forgive and forget can lead to better outcomes and how passionately plotting revenge can lead to madness and can have dire consequences. Revenge can often at times be cathartic and lead to pleasing outcomes but sometimes it's better to move on and let go. It's not always the individual who's swept away with the violent tides of time, often it's an entire society or an entire nation that's either brought down to ashes and or it rises ~~to~~ like the phoenix from its fiery grave, because of its obsession with instruction it had set in stone.

When the communists spilled the blood of the bourgeoisie on the Russian streets blanketed with snow in the coldest days of October, Vladimir Lenin was still not at ease even when things were going his way. Tightly clutching on to his pistol and menacingly glaring at the ~~left~~ overthrown ~~3~~ years in their prison cells, he recalled standing beneath his brother's hung corpse. The Czar's ~~ad~~ blood on their hands and Lenin wanted

revenge. "BANG!" "BANG!", he personally executed the Czar and established the dictatorship of the proletariat. Vladimir Lenin grew in power and the red specter of Communism began to haunt Europe. Lenin's rise to power and his onslaught against imperialism had made many monarchies shudder. Lenin, like many, had not buried the past, but revenge had further fueled his anger against the Czar and had led to a swift revolution. Lenin was not buried by the past but instead withstood the test of time. It's not only the thirst for vengeance that leads to an unhealthy obsession with the past, sometimes it's yearning for the glory days of old. William Blake, England's prophetic poet, was obsessed with the biblical lore and with dreams of the messiah. His obsession with the spiritual revolution also led to his fascination in the crusade and with the troubled past of Jerusalem. Being thoroughly obsessed with Christian metaphysics and theology, Blake had composed marvelous poems, proses, ballads and a series of vivid water colored illustrations on his own poems. His obsession with the past did not bury him within the sands of time either but led to him becoming England's most celebrated poet.

Even though Blake's

Yet Jerusalem still remains a troubled state even after the passing of William Blake. Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister and head of the Likud party of speaks of ~~how~~ the land promised to Moses and will refer to arcane texts from the Old Testament's "Book of Deuteronomy". He further justifies the slaughter and genocides of the "Amaleks" and the "Philistines" while quoting verses from the dead sea scrolls. Thus proving his obsession with the past. Now being faced with protests against the war and being pressured by the right wing radical to continue the war, he is caught up in a war that can not end but will eventually to his untimely downfall. Many men from his party including Defence Minister Yoav Gallant, military spokesman Daniel Hagari have claimed that this is a war Israel can not win, while Yoav Gallant has personally objected against Netanyahu's war policies as well. Netanyahu, ~~respecter~~ has clung to the past and ~~with~~ he is being buried by it. In 1945, Adolf Hitler had mysteriously vanished. His obsession with bringing back the "Aryan race" to its ultimate glory would eventually lead to

the downfall of Germany and further caused him to lose the war and eventually lose his own life as well. Adolf Hitler was stranded in the cold embrace of death and buried under the sands of time.

The war did not end with Hitler's untimely passing, it ended when the United States of America nuked Nagasaki & Hiroshima.

Robert J Oppenheimer, the fore runner of the Manhattan Project (responsible for the creation of the atomic bomb) was called on by the US president Truman. In Truman's presence,

Oppenheimer claimed that he is resigning and will no longer work on projects responsible for the deaths of countless innocent lives.

Even though he was personally mocked by the US president, he was mentally at ease, having let go of a past, if he were to keep hold of, would've led to a downfall of his sanity because it was against his moral compass. Robert J Oppenheimer had prevailed and could not be brought down by his own past.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) led the successful conquest of Mecca and had conquered the land that exiled him without any blood shed. The people of Mecca were now at his mercy. Among the Meccans were many who had killed, tortured and abused his people

when they were in position of power. Before him stood Hind, wife of Abu Sufyan, the woman who had mutilated the corpse of his uncle ~~for~~ Hamza (who was martyred in Chazwa Uhud) and had chewed on his severed entrails. Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) forgave her and forgave all those who stood before him. His actions made him immortal in the hearts of men and it was because of his character, wisdom and personality that Islam ~~to~~ continues to grow as a religion. Hazrat Ali (RA) quotes "Do not grieve over something you have lost, what is meant for you will surely come to but if it doesn't it was never meant to be yours". The last Rashidun Caliph and the prophet's blessed companion further emphasizes on the importance of learning to let and to move by accepting things as they are because if a person does not accept things as they are, the person will fall victim to the merciless talons of time.

Diplomacy of the prophet further goes on to show that holding personal grudges against others is often ~~not~~ not worth it because learning to let go and learning to move on is also beneficial for the mental health as well.

Having discussed how prominent individuals dealt with their past and how they voluntarily chose to be a slave to their past or to be liberated from it, it can also be noted how societies, nations and states behave historically in a similar manner and have to face similar consequences.

The Holy Roman Empire had crumbled after the thirty years of war because the Catholics had engraved in stone the idea of the SPQR and the glorious Roman empire. After the outbreak of war, even most religious men like Cardinal Richelieu of France had let go of the idea of the Holy Roman Empire and had sided with the winning party just for their states alone to rise to power. The Holy Roman Empire was swept off its feet and drowned in the merciless shores of time and history.

After parting ways with Abraham, Lot moved on to live in the city of Sodom. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah adhered to profane practices as they became victims to modernity. They incurred God's wrath and were soon wiped away from the face of the earth. The aforementioned narrative is ~~not~~ synonymous with how modernity itself can sometimes destroy a nation.

Individuals who held on to memories and struggled to revive the times they cherished the most often faced dire consequences but there were some who progressed and persevered. Vengeance was a good option for many but wreaked havoc for some. Nations too have faced similar consequences while holding on to old ideologies or when they tried moving away from them. Nations, states and individuals are often victims of their fate because time is callous and shows no mercy no matter how much power the possessor has. Given the circumstances, men must and nations must let go of the past and act in good faith regardless of how troubled their pasts were.

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