



Explain six reasons why initiation was important in the African Traditional

TOPIC - AFRICAN MORAL AND CULTURAL VALUES

SUB-TOPIC - RITES OF PASSAGE

- a) Initiates gain new status in life/he/she moves from childhood to adulthood and becomes full member of the community.
- b) Initiate acquires new rights and privileges such as giving an opportunity for one to access his/her responsibilities in the community, for example, to marry and own property.
- c) Initiate receives special education from their sponsors during seclusion.
- d) Initiation ceremony brings the people together, community got united through their participation in the rites e.g. families, relatives and friends.
- e) Shedding of blood unites the initiate to the land and ancestors.
- f) Initiation ceremonies are looked at as occasion for prayers to God, prayers and sacrifices offered served as acts of worship
- g) Initiation helps to restructure the community through age sets/groups.
- h) It is a sign of courage and bravery.
- i) Pain endured during initiation prepares the initiates to face the difficulties and challenges of adult life.
- j) The rites introduced an individual to the secrets and traditions of the community.

//Outline the significance of initiation rites in African Traditional Communities