

Study guidelines for Chapter 5 and for extract N°4

- 1) Situate the Chapter and summarize it briefly, say what's going on, who are the characters present, what they are doing.
- 2) Find the passage in which corruption is alluded to and quote it. BN uses a metaphor to describe the scene between Mrs Bankole and Black Beret, is it efficient ? What is the effect produced by such a literary device ?
- 3) What upsets Femi at the airport and why ?
- 4) What upsets Sade at the airport and why ?
- 5) Focus on the last part of Chapter 5 : what is the structure used by BN in the last 4 paragraphs ?
- 6) The masks : what do they represent for Sade ?
- 7) Any allusion to lying in this chapter ?
- 8) From one continent to another, from Africa to Europe : the theme of moving, journeying, any other move/transition suggested in this extract ? If yes, which one ?
If you find it difficult to answer this question, the following definition may help you, what is explained is a "rite of passage" :

"Moving from one defined position to another. From this perspective, life is not a matter of gradual development and change but rather consists of a series of abrupt and ritualized transitions. Rites of passage display common features — in particular, a definite three-phase structure, of separation transition, and aggregation. Initial rites of separation serve to remove the individual from normal social life, thus dissolving existing social ties and status" Who might be concerned by this definition in the novel ?