King Leopold’s Ghost – Summer Reading Assignment

Character Analysis

Task:

Choose one key individual portrayed in "King Leopold's Ghost":
Leopold II, Henry Morton Stanley, Edmund Dene Morel, Roger Casement, William Henry Sheppard, Affonso I (Nzinga Mbemba).

Conduct a detailed character analysis, delving into their motivations, actions, and impact on the Congo Free State. Explore the ethical dimensions of their role within the system of colonization, and assess the extent to which their actions shaped the trajectory of history.

Criteria	5 - Excellent	4 - Good	3 - Satisfactory	2 - Needs Improvement	1 - Inadequate
Motivations	Demonstrates a profound understanding of the character's motivations and provides clear and insightful analysis.	Shows a strong grasp of the character's motivations with detailed analysis.	Includes some insights into the character's motivations but lacks depth or clarity.	Attempts to discuss the character's motivations but lacks detail and coherence.	Shows little to no understanding of the character's motivations.
Actions	Analyzes the character's actions comprehensively, illustrating a deep awareness of their significance.	Provides a thorough examination of the character's actions, emphasizing their importance.	Describes the character's actions with some analysis, though may lack in-depth exploration.	Includes a basic overview of the character's actions but lacks analysis or insight.	Offers minimal discussion of the character's actions.
Impact on the Congo Free State	Clearly articulates the character's impact on the Congo Free State, demonstrating a nuanced understanding of historical influence.	Discusses the character's impact on the Congo Free State with clarity and insight.	Touches on the character's impact on the Congo Free State, but may lack depth in analysis.	Attempts to explain the character's impact on the Congo Free State, but with limited detail.	Shows little to no recognition of the character's impact on the Congo Free State.

Ethical Dimensions	Evaluates the character's role within the system of colonization critically, integrating ethical considerations effectively.	Examines the character's ethical dimensions within the context of colonization with substantial insight.	Addresses the character's ethical dimensions to some extent, but with limited critical analysis.	Touches on ethical aspects of the character's role, but lacks depth or coherent evaluation.	Shows little awareness or consideration of the character's ethical implications.
Shaping History	Thoroughly assesses the extent to which the character's actions shaped the trajectory of history, providing a compelling argument supported by evidence.	Provides a strong analysis of how the character influenced historical developments with well-supported points.	Discusses the impact of the character on history, though may lack in-depth exploration or detailed evidence.	Attempts to explain the character's role in shaping history, but lacks strong evidence or coherent argumentation.	Shows little to no understanding of how the character's actions influenced historical outcomes.