

Things Fall Apart Reading Schedule and Reading Circle Information

Things Fall Apart isn't a very long novel, but it speaks volumes to the detrimental effects caused by imperialism in Nigeria. As we read this book, you will engage in discussion with your new tablemates. You will meet ten times for discussion (and four of these times you will have written work). **It is your responsibility to follow the reading schedule, even if you happen to be absent.** Consult the scoring guide on the back to remind you of how Mr. and Mrs. Davis are evaluating you during this time.

Schedule-Dates indicate the day the reading is to be completed for class discussion. A “w” indicates that written work is also due on this day.

All written work must be typed, MLA format (Times New Roman, 12pt, 1-inch margins), but it does not have to be double-spaced. On the last day of written work, Dec. 13, you must turn in all four writing assignments. You must also submit the written work as one document (just copy and paste the text into one document) to turnitin.com by Friday, December 15, 11:59 p.m. Late submissions will receive a one-point deduction; failure to submit will lower your grade for the project by two letter grades.

Schedule

12/4	pp. 3-35 (w)	12/11	pp. 110-135 (w)
12/5	pp. 36-51	12/12	pp. 136-147
12/6	pp. 54-74 (w)	12/13	pp. 148-167 (w)
12/7	pp. 75-86	12/14	pp. 171-183
12/8	pp. 87-109	12/15	pp. 184-205

Jobs-Pay attention to the job description and follow it completely.

Okonkwo – As you read the assigned section, write three questions with answers. All questions must be Level II or III, with only one being Level III and relate to the main character Okonkwo. You should answer your own questions **in writing** with detail from the entire section you read to demonstrate your specific understanding of the section. Answers to each question must be at least five to six sentences. Good answers include partial quotes and page number references and address issues of **significance** in the chapter(s).

Other Characters – As you read the assigned section, write three questions with answers. All questions must be Level II or III, with only one being Level III) and relate to other characters (not Okonkwo). The characters should be of significance in the section. You need to answer these questions **in detailed writing** showing your specific reading of the section. Answers to each question must be at least five to six sentences. Good answers make references to specific pages and include partial quotes from the text.

African Culture/Customs – Much of *TFA* is steeped in rich African culture. Write three questions about specific customs or cultural traits you notice in the pages you read and answer these questions. Questions need to be Level II/III quality and cover the range of pages you read. You must answer each question in writing of five to six sentences demonstrating specific reading of the assigned section. Good answers will include specific page references and partial quotes from the text. Better questions will look for parallels/contrasts to Western culture and/or your own family's heritage/culture.

Vocabulary/Literary Devices – Find five words that are words you think your classmates may not know – words that are challenging. Do not choose the italicized words that reflect the language of the people in the book. You must (1) write the page number where the word appears; (2) copy out the sentence in which the word appears; and (3) write the word's part of speech and a usage-appropriate definition in your own words. Avoid copying definitions word-for-word from a dictionary, online or in book form. Also, do not use a synonym only definition. **In addition**, write one question and answer (5-6 sentences) involving a proverb or other literary device (a parable, fable, etc.) from this section. You could ask, for example, a question like this: *In Ch. 1, Achebe writes that "proverbs are the palm-oil with which words are eaten." What does this mean? What does it show about the conversation between Okoye and Unoka on page 7?*

Things Fall Apart
Reading Circle Success Criteria

5
Written work always complete, on time, and exceeding specifications
Written work demonstrates outstanding understanding of the significance and context of the reading
Group participation demonstrates active engagement with the text and encouragement of group members
Consistent attendance for all discussions

4
Written work always complete, on time, and meeting and sometimes exceeding specifications
Written work usually demonstrates above average understanding of reading
Group participation demonstrates mostly active engagement with the text and with group members
Consistent attendance for all discussions

3
Written work usually complete, on time, and meeting specifications
Written work usually demonstrates average understanding of the reading; significance or context may be lacking
Group participation demonstrates some engagement with the text and with group members
Consistent attendance for all discussions

2
Written work partially complete, perhaps not on time or not meeting specifications
Written work demonstrates superficial understanding of the reading and chosen topics are insignificant/misunderstood
Group participation is lacking or perhaps inconsistent; engagement not observed, perhaps due to excessive absences or leaving class

1
Written work often failed to meet specifications or was not on time
Written work demonstrates little or no understanding of reading; little effort observed
Group participation not observed due to absence or leaving class, or participation is usually ineffective, disengaged or disruptive

	Okonkwo	Other Characters	African Culture/Customs	Vocabulary/ Lit. Devices
Mon., 12/4 (3-35)				
Wed., 12/6 (54-74)				
Mon., 12/11 (110-135)				
Wed., 12/13 (148-167)				