

Unit Overview

Over the next few weeks, we will be reading and analysing Chinua Achebe's literary classic, *Things Fall Apart*. Below, please find an overview of what you can expect over the next month:

You need:

- A google doc of notes connecting to a theme you'd like to explore. You should be adding to this as you read throughout the unit
- PDF copy of novel (see Google Classroom)
- "post-it notes" (these can be done electronically on a PDF file. I do STRONGLY encourage you to flag important chapters, page numbers, characters, dialogue, etc that you think may connect to your chosen theme).

Novel Themes:

Choose **one** of the following themes. You should develop a thesis based on this theme, explaining *how* it impacts the novel.

- Colonialism
- Gender roles
- Culture and identity
- Imperialism
- Fate

Your Task:

For the next few weeks, we will be conducting this unit online. During this time, you are required to complete 8 analysis questions over the course of the unit. These questions will explore various themes, plot and character development, and will also test your reading comprehension. For your own benefit, please be sure that you are understanding and responding to all of the questions and making notes as you read the novel. All of the required material will be posted on Google Classroom; as such, please make sure that you are checking it regularly for updates.

Literary Essay:

You are required to write a five paragraph essay (750-1000 words) based on **one of the themes** from this unit. Your essay must include an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. You must have 3 S.E.Es (statement, evidence, explanation) PER paragraph. Your essay must be in MLA format, double-spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font, and **MUST** include a Works Cited Page.

Analysis Questions:

By the end of the unit, you are responsible for responding to each of the following questions, which will be posted intermittently throughout the unit.

1. What is the setting of *Things Fall Apart*? Describe Unoka. What were Okonkwo's greatest fear and greatest passion?
2. What theme are you interested in choosing for your essay? Why?
3. Name the three ways which the British conquered the Igbo?
4. Describe how the world of *Things Fall Apart* is "oppressively patriarchal."
5. What are the three sources of authority in Igbo society?
6. What type of government do the Igbo people have? Who rules each clan?
7. Explain the concept of the *Egwugwu*.
8. Explain the concept of gods and oracles. Who is a main god for the Igbo?

Important Dates:

Thesis: Friday, April 10th

Essay Outline: Monday, April 20th

Peer Edit: Wednesday, April 22nd

Final Submission: Friday, April 24th

Things Fall Apart Reading Schedule 2020

		Wed Mar 18 Unit Intro End of Unit Task Novel dist.	Thur Mar 19 Novel Intro: About the Author	Fri Mar 20 NoveTheme: Imperialism and the Scramble for Africa ANALYSIS QUESTION 3
Mon. Mar 23 Ch. 1 - 2 Character analysis: Okonkwo's Father ANALYSIS QUESTION 1	Tue 24 Ch. 3 - 4 "Okonkwo ruled his house with a heavy hand"	Wed 25 Novel Theme: Gender roles in Igbo culture	Thur 26 Ch. 5 The Danger of a Single Story ANALYSIS QUESTION 2	Fri 27 D.E.A.R Fridays... (Read Culminating) Ch. 6
Mon 30 Ch. 7-8 ANALYSIS QUESTION 4	Tues 31 Character Pairs: Exploring themes	Wed Apr 1 Religion, Education, and Missionaries in Africa	Thurs Apr 2 Ch. 9-10 ANALYSIS QUESTION 6	Fri Apr 3 Ch. 11 D.E.A.R Fridays... (Read Culminating)
Mon Apr 6 Ch. 12-13 Writing an essay: Developing a Thesis ANALYSIS QUESTION 7	Tues 7 Ch. 14-15 Writing an essay: Developing a Thesis	Wed 8 Ch. 16-17 Okonkwo Character development: Hero vs. villain?	Thurs 9 Exploring Themes: Fate ANALYSIS QUESTION 5	Fri 10 Writing an essay: MLA FORMAT THESIS DUE
Mon 13 Ch. 18-20 Writing an essay: Inserting quotes	Tues 14 **ESSAY WORK PERIOD**	Wed 15 Ch. 21-22	Thurs 16 Ch. 23-25	Fri 17 D.E.A.R Fridays... (Read Culminating)
Mon 20 **ESSAY WORK PERIOD** OUTLINE DUE	Tues 21 **ESSAY WORK PERIOD**	Wed 22 ***PEER EDIT***	Thurs 23 **ESSAY WORK PERIOD**	Fri 24 ESSAY DUE END OF UNIT