

Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe

Study Guide Questions

ACE - Answer Question, Cite Evidence, Explain More!

Part One, Chapters 1-4

1. Describe Unoka
2. What had the men of Umuofia called a meeting?
3. What influence did the oracle have on decisions made in Umuofia?
4. What was Okonkwo's greatest fear and greatest passion?
5. What upset Okonkwo most about his son, Nwoye?
6. What did Okonkwo bring home from his trip to Mbaino?
7. How did Ikemefuna react to living with Okonkwo's family?
8. How did the people view yams?

Part One, Chapters 5-7

1. Describe the Feast of the New Yam?
2. What unacceptable thing did Okonkwo do just before the Feast of the New Yam?
3. Who was Chielo and what was she important?
4. What influence did Ikemefuna have on Nwoye?
5. How did Okonkwo feel about Ikemefuna's influence on Nwoye?
6. How did the villagers feel about the coming of the locusts, and what did they do about it?
7. What did the village decide to do with Ikemefuna?
8. Who struck the last blow to Ikemefuna, and why?

Part One, Chapters 8-10

1. What did Okonkwo do whenever he thought of his father's weakness and failure?
2. What did Okonkwo tell himself about his part in Ikemefuna's death?
3. What did Obierika tell Okonkwo about his part in Ikemefuna's death?
4. Describe the meeting to determine Obierika's daughter's bride price.
5. The men began discussing rumors about white men. Who did the men think the white men were?
6. Describe the relationship between Ekwefi and Ezinma.
7. What did the medicine man tell Okonkwo after the death of Ekwefi's second child?
8. Describe the burial of Ekwefi's third child, and the reason for it.

9. What was the purpose of the ceremony described in Chapter 10?

Part Two, Chapters 11-13

1. What did Okonkwo do when Chielo took Ezinma? What does this show about his character?
2. What was the purpose of the uri ceremony?
3. What was the significance in the amount of wine the family brought?
4. What happened at the end of the ceremony?
5. Describe Ezeudu's funeral.
6. How did Achinua Achebe describe a man's life?
7. What was the result of Okonkwo's action?
8. What was the reason for the clan's actions against Okonkwo?
9. What did Obierika think about after this calamity, and what was his conclusion?

Part Two, Chapters 14-19

1. How did Okonkwo feel about his circumstances?
2. Why did Uchendu talk to Okonkwo about the Mother Supreme?
3. Briefly retell the story of the destruction of Abame.
4. What event did Obierika describe on his next visit, two years later?
5. What was the iron horse?
6. Where did the missionaries in Mbanta build their church, why were they given that particular piece of land, and what happened to them?
7. What was it about Nwoye's actions that disturbed Okonkwo so much?
8. What group wanted to be admitted to the Christian church, and what happened?
9. Describe the incident with the sacred python
10. What did Okonkwo do before he left Mbanta when his exile was ended?
11. What was the one elder's message to those at the feast?

Part Three, Chapters 20-25

1. How did Okonkwo feel about his return to the clan?
2. What message did Okonkwo give to his sons and daughters after Nwoye left the family?
3. Describe the changes that had come to Umuofia in the seven years that Okonkwo was in exile.
4. Okonkwo asked Obierika why the people had lost their power to fight. What was Obierika's reply?
5. How did many of the other villagers feel about these changes?
6. What was Mr. Brown's conclusion about the religion of the clan? How did he act to gain converts?

7. About what was Okonkwo grieving?
8. Describe the conflict started by Enoch.
9. What was the result of the action taken by the *egwugwu*?
10. How did Okonkwo feel when he returned from the white man's prison?
11. Why did the men meet in the marketplace?
12. What event happened in the marketplace?
13. What happened to Okonkwo?
14. What did Obierika tell the Commissioner?
15. What was the Commissioner's reaction to the incident?