

THINGS FALL APART

Study Guide, Chapters 1-3

CHAPTER 1

1. How did Okonkwo bring honor to his village as a young man? What other achievements make him important?
2. Why does Okonkwo dislike his father, Unoka? What good qualities does Unoka have that his son fails to appreciate?
3. Define the word *proverb*. Then write an example of a proverb from this chapter.

CHAPTER 2

4. Explain the following proverb: "When the moon is shining the cripple becomes hungry for a walk."
5. How does Okonkwo reaffirm his greatness as a warrior to the people of his village?
6. What is the normal response when a member of a neighboring clan murders one of the Igbo?
7. Briefly describe the physical layout of Okonkwo's compound.

CHAPTER 3

8. Describe the entrance to the shrine called Agbala. How does a worshipper get a message from the gods? What is a chi?
9. Describe the custom of sharing palm wine in this chapter.
10. List the crops that the women are responsible for in the Igbo clan.