

Things Fall Apart/Persepolis
Reading and Writing Outline (may change at teacher's discretion)
I will occasionally add extra assignments AND quizzes.

Literary Response Journal

To prepare for class discussion, please respond to the question provided below. Each entry must be dated and a minimum of two paragraphs of 5-6 sentences. Feel free to expand your answer to include interesting observations about the text. Each entry is worth 5 points and will be evaluated on depth of thought and writing.

If you miss class, you are responsible for completing each journal question on your own.

Journals must be:

In a designated spiral bound notebook.

Each entry must be dated.

Demonstrate thoughts, reaction and understanding of reading.

March 21: Share Quick and Dirty research. Read and discuss “The Second Coming”.

Assignments:

Read Chapters 1-4 in *Things Fall Apart*.

Journal Question:

Discuss the significance of the three proverbs introduced in Chapter One. Thoroughly explain each proverb and define its meaning in the context of the chapter. What is Chinua Achebe’s overall purpose in using Igbo proverbs in the novel?

March 23: Discuss Ch. 1-4.

Assignment:

Read Chapters 5-8

Journal Question:

Okonkwo is angry because he is unable to work during the preparations for the New Yam Festival. Compare and contrast Okonkwo’s behavior during the festival with his behavior during the Week of Peace.

March 27: Discuss Ch. 5-8 and write an in-class response.

Assignment:

Read Ch. 9-12

Journal Question: Explain the Oracle and Chielo’s relationship with her god. Explain why all the characters, Okonkwo, Ekwefi, Ezinma, and Chielo, were powerless to alter the events of this dark night.

March 29: Discuss Chapters 9-12.

Assignment:

Read Chapters 13-18

Journal Question: Give a detailed analysis of the saying “Mother is Supreme,” as it relates to Okonkwo. (p.133) Use three examples to support your points. Explain how Christianity exacerbates the relationship between Nwoye and Okonkwo.

April 2: Discuss 13-18 – in class writing

Assignment:

Read Chapters 19-21

Journal Question: At the end of this chapter, Obierika explains that the white man “...has put a knife on the things that held us together and we have fallen apart.” (p.276) Explain the meaning of Obierika’s words and provide three examples to support your point.

April 4: Discuss Chapters 19-21.

Assignment:

Read Chapters 22-25

Journal Question: Is Okonkwo a tragic hero, or is he a fool? Is Okonkwo selfish?

How would you describe Okonkwo at the end of the novel? Use three examples to support your point.

April 10: Discuss Chapters 22-25 – start essay.

Assignment:

Prepare rough draft of TFA essay.

April 12: Response journal evaluation. Work on essay – library time.

Assignment:

Finalize TFA essay.

April 16: Essay Due. Quick and Dirty on Iran

Assignment:

Polish up Q&D and be prepared to discuss.

April 18: Share Quick and Dirty research on Iran. Begin Reading Persepolis p. 3-53

Assignment:

Journal Question: What was the difference between how Marjane and her family were living under the Shah vs. the Ayatollah? How did the Shah lose power?

April 20: Read Persepolis p. 54-86.

Assignment:

Journal Question: How is the life in Iran different from American life?

April 24: Read Persepolis p. 87-153. Begin movie.

Assignment:

Journal Question: What aspect of Marjane’s story did you find most disturbing?

April 26: Turn in Response Journals and watch Persepolis!