

Riviera Schools

2025 REQUIRED SUMMER READING FOR AP Literature and Composition



Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read

Things Fall Apart is the first of three novels in Chinua Achebe's critically acclaimed African Trilogy. It is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, *Things Fall Apart* explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order.

With more than 20 million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, *Things Fall Apart* provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. Achebe does not only capture life in a pre-colonial African village, he conveys the tragedy of the loss of that world while broadening our understanding of our contemporary realities.

You must purchase a **hard copy** of the book as annotations are required. Read and highlight your book for character descriptions, behavior, philosophies, and plot lines. These annotations will prepare you for the assignment to be completed in class.

Link to purchase the novel: [Click Here for the Amazon Link!](#)