

Part 1: Video—<http://www.learner.org/courses/worldlit/things-fall-apart/watch/>

Please answer the focus questions after viewing the first section of the video (**STOP at 11:05—do NOT go beyond the section titled, “Sacrifice”**)

1. Why was Chinua Achebe known as “the father of modern African writing”?
2. Where does the book take place?
3. What has been the representation of Africa and Africans prior to *Things Fall Apart*?
4. What do you learn about the Igbo people and their culture?
5. What do you learn about Chinua Achebe and his life?

Part 2: Go to the site below and CLICK on the TABS to answer the questions.

<http://www.learner.org/courses/worldlit/things-fall-apart/read/getting-started/>

a. Timeline:

Read the history of the Igbo territory from the 1600s to the present day. Jot down important facts.

b. Background:

Who is the hero of the story and what is his greatest fear?

How does Achebe portray the conflict between the British and the Igbo?

c. Language:

Why does Achebe decide to write the novel in English rather than in Igbo?

How does Achebe “change English”? What does this mean?