

Things Fall Apart



Chapter 14

1. How is the importance of women brought home to Okonkwo in Mbanta?



Chapter 15

2. What sort of stories had Okonkwo heard about white men?
3. How does Okonkwo's friend, Obierika, good-naturedly refuse to accept Okonkwo's thanks?



Chapter 16

1. What moved Nwoye to convert to the new religion?
2. What troubled Nwoye about his former belief system?
3. What is the first act of the missionaries that evokes a positive response in some of the Ibo?
4. In what humorous way do the missionaries mangle the Ibo language?



Chapter 17

5. What land does the village give to the missionaries? How does this offer backfire?
6. What does Okonkwo mean by the metaphor, "Living fire begets cold, impotent ash"? (next to last sentence in the chapter)

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Chapter 18

1. The Osu are introduced in this chapter. Why do you suppose Achebe has not mentioned them before?
2. Why do you think the Osu were some of the first converts to Christianity?
3. How do the people of Umuofia treat converts to Christianity? How does their treatment of Christians change?



Chapter 19

1. How does Okonkwo show his appreciation of his kinsmen in Mbanta?
2. What does the final speaker in the chapter say is the main threat posed by Christianity?



Part Two Essay

Write an essay discussing the introduction of Christianity to the Ibo people in the novel thus far. What are some of the crises of the young church in Mbanta? How do the missionaries and Christians interact with the villagers? What are some of the differences between the traditional religion of the Ibo people and Christianity?

(Essay can be one paragraph but must be at least two pages double-spaced using a 12 point font).