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Things Fall Apart: CliffsNotes



Synopsis

The CliffsNotes study guide on Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* supplements the original literary work, giving you background information about the author, an introduction to the work, critical commentaries, and expanded glossaries, all for you to use as an educational tool that will allow you to better understand the work. This study guide was written with the assumption that you have read *Things Fall Apart*. Reading a literary work doesn't mean that you immediately grasp the major themes and devices used by the author; this study guide will help supplement your reading to be sure you get all you can from Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. CliffsNotes Review tests your comprehension of the original text and reinforces learning with questions and answers, practice projects, and more. For further information on Chinua Achebe and Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, check out the CliffsNotes Resource Center at www.cliffsnotes.com.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read the Cliff Notes for *Things Fall Apart* before reading the book. It's my first time using a book from the CN series and I must say it was very well done. It gave me the background I needed to read and understand the actual book, extra information that I wouldn't have even known I was missing. That all made Achebe's book much more enjoyable.

My book club was reading the book, "Things Fall Apart" so I was looking for something to help me review the book and formulate talking points. This reading guide, which covers each chapter in

detail, was just the thing. It's awfully easy for a reading group to get off topic or falter when discussing a book (we aren't all former English majors) so knowing what the themes of the book is useful. I realize many people would say you should know that if you read the book, and they're right, but for a book club this was quite helpful and offered information that was a bit different from what you'd get when reading the stock reading guide questions.

1. The original book was simple enough that the Cliff's notes were not needed. It actually took 50% of the time it took to read the Cliff's notes that it did the book. Cliff's notes are usually for books that are long and overwrought with detail and have all manner of obscure plot elements (which "Things Fall Apart" did not). 2. There was a lot of definition of vocabulary that was fairly pedestrian. Some words needed defining, but there is no reason that a person could not look up said words ("harmattan") in a nice dictionary somewhere. (And who is ever going to use that word again in life?) 3. The author actually got a bit judgmental in his evaluation of the (English) characters-- in a book based on events that never actually happened. What happened in those circumstances? The same thing that has happened countless other times on this earth: Some more advanced people meet some less advanced people and they run all over them. It could be Chinese vs. Tibetans. It could be Arabs vs. Black Africans. In this case, it just happened to be Igbos versus Englishmen. (You can read about this in *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*.) If you just MUST spend \$5, you would be better off spending it on a second hand copy of *Things Fall Apart* (which, I see, is available for \$0.50). Verdict: Not worth the money. Not worth the time. Not that much insight. Save your money. Not recommended.

The actual book is so hard to read and make sense of. The Cliffs notes sure helped! Read this before I tackled the novel so that I wasn't so terribly confused with the unfamiliar names, places and culture.

The book presents a summary of each chapter and a detailed analysis which allows students to go beyond the surface of the text. The book is also useful for teachers who may not be aware of all aspects of the Igbo culture. You are able to better understand the symbolisms.

I was very happy with the rate of shipping as well as the quality of the book I received, As to weather or not this book was a help in conceptual understanding is yet to be determined ;)

Needed this product fast for a college course. Paid extra to get it ASAP, and was not disappointed with the amount of time it took, or the condition of the book. GREAT service.

Makes summarizing a breeze. The students appreciate the extra information that is not in their text. I recommend this book for all students and teachers.

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