

NAME:

Things Fall Apart - Ibo Customs and Cultural Practices

Read to page 125 in *Things Fall Apart*, and then complete the following:

Throughout the first half of Chinua Achebe's novel, *Things Fall Apart*, we have read and learned of many customs and cultural practices of the Ibo people of Nigeria. While the novel is fictional, the tribe of people and their customs are not.

Choose one tribal custom or element of the culture of the Ibo people that you find interesting. Do some research on your chosen custom or element of Ibo culture, and then write an informative essay on it. This essay should be 4 - 5 paragraphs in length. It should be typed in MLA format with a Works Cited page for any outside sources you use to find information.

Some possible topics for this essay include:

- Oracles
- Gender roles
- Folktales
- Yam farming
- Common foods, drinks, and dishes
- The Egwugwu
- Priests and Priestesses
- Titles and social status
- Superstition
- Kola nut rituals
- Tribal warfare
- Family life
- Odinani (the Ibo religion)
- Music and song
- Festivals and observances (ex: the Week of Peace)
- Laws

You can also focus on several customs instead of only focusing on one. Also, when you are researching, instead of searching for "Ibo" customs, try searching for "Igbo" customs as this is the more common spelling.