

# *Things Fall Apart*

## **Part I: Chapters 7-13 analysis**

Chapter 7, through its external and internal conflicts, changes the course of the novel. As a group, you need to compose a paragraph about how this chapter functions as a turning point for the protagonist Okonkwo. Use the power paragraph process, including an assertive thesis sentence and at least three quotations integrated and explained as evidence.

# Power Paragraph: The Thesis Sentence

## 1. *Complexity*

The thesis sentence should be grammatically complex, including an independent clause that states the writer's opinion about the topic and a dependent clause that reveals the reason for that opinion.

## 2. *Clarity*

The thesis sentence directly addresses the topic or question and is understandable without having read the topic or question. The sentence clearly states the writer's opinion.

## 3. *Specificity*

The thesis sentence precisely declares or implies why you hold the opinion you have stated; it provides reason or explanation for your perspective.

# Power Paragraph: Background and Evidence

## Background:

If necessary, the thesis sentence can be followed with a few sentences of background or context in which you explain the question or address the situation.

## Evidence:

You must provide your reader with two or three pieces of evidence that support and directly relate to your thesis sentence. The evidence should include direct quotations from your source(s) if possible. A quotation cannot stand alone; a sentence should begin with your own words and end with a quotation. The beginning of your quotation sentence should connect the quotation to your point and provide context. A sentence of explanation should follow your quotation sentence.

# Power Paragraph: Syntax, Diction, and Mechanics

## Sentence structure:

You should use a variety of sentence types and lengths in your paragraph, ones whose form follows their function. Also, make sure to connect your ideas and pieces of evidence with appropriate transitions.

## Diction:

Use rich, interesting, and accurate vocabulary to convey your ideas. Utilize descriptive phrases and adjectives before nouns.

## Grammar and Mechanics:

Your paragraph should contain few or new errors in mechanics, punctuation, or spelling. Refer to an author by full name or by last name, never by first name only, and punctuate the title or a work of literature precisely. Remember that the titles of novels and plays are underlined or italicized and that the titles of poems, stories, and essays are placed in quotation marks.