

## 2026-27 Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment

The Assignment:

*Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe

Support your local bookstore when you buy your copy and complete the following steps:

### 1. Annotations:

As you read, you will need to annotate your text—documenting your thinking along the way. You will show evidence of a close reading by using the following annotations to mark the text:

Underline key ideas and details & **highlight** new vocabulary

\* = passages that make you connect

! = passages that make you react

? = passages that make you question

### 2. Quote & Response:

In a composition notebook\*, record at least five significant quotes from each of the three parts of the novel for a total of 15 direct quotes. Then, after each quote write a brief response, noting your own interpretation, connection, or question. As the story of Okonkwo evolves, see how you can respond to the events that unfold, the character interactions that take place, the themes that reveal themselves, the language that is used to tell the story, etc. I am most interested in having you capture your unique reading experience in your composition notebook. Engage with the text and pull some passages from the book that elicit a strong reaction from you and share what about that passage is sticky. What are you thinking? What are you wondering? What connections are you making? Pepper your text with annotations and remember to aim for at least five significant quotes from each of the three parts of the novel.

Please bring your annotated text and composition notebook of responses to class with you on our first day.

\*If you require accommodations, feel free to adapt as needed.

I hope you enjoy your summer break, and I look forward to meeting each of you at the beginning of the school year.

Read on,  
Brittany Bergin-Foss

Please contact Brittany Bergin-Foss, English Faculty, with any questions this summer. // [bberginfoss@crms.org](mailto:bberginfoss@crms.org)