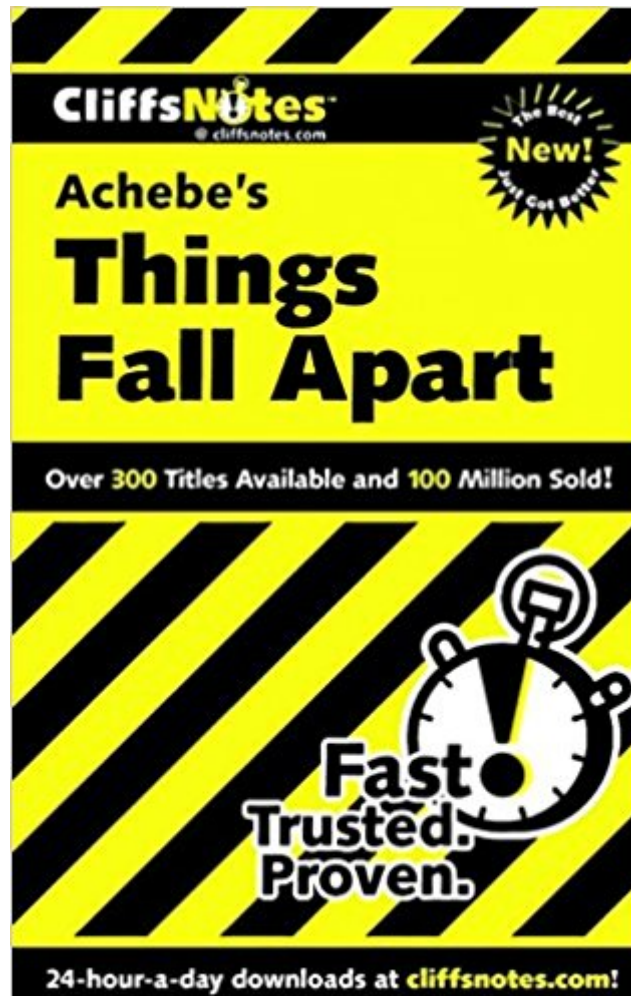




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CliffsNotes On Achebe's Things Fall Apart (Dummies Trade)



Synopsis

The original CliffsNotes study guides offer expert commentary on major themes, plots, characters, literary devices, and historical background. The latest generation of titles in this series also feature glossaries and visual elements that complement the classic, familiar format. In CliffsNotes on Things Fall Apart, you explore the ground-breaking work of author Chinua Achebe, considered by many to be the most influential African writer of his generation. The novel, amazing in its authenticity, leaves behind the stereotypical portrayals of African life and presents the Igbo culture of Nigeria in all its remarkable complexity. Chapter summaries and commentaries take you through Achebe's world, and critical essays give you insight into the novel's themes and use of language. Other features that help you study include Character analyses of the main characters A character map that graphically illustrates the relationships among the characters A section on the life and background of Chinua Achebe A review section that tests your knowledge A Resource Center full of books, articles, films, and Internet sites Classic literature or modern modern-day treasure â" you'll understand it all with expert information and insight from CliffsNotes study guides.

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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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