

# Cultures and Customs

## *Things Fall Apart*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Presentation Date \_\_\_\_\_

Part One of *Things Fall Apart* shows the traditions of the Ibo people. Your job was to identify the traditions and come to a conclusion about what values are revealed by through the practice of each tradition. This is important because the conflict within is often justified because of cultural differences/superiority. The reality is that two cultures that practice two very different traditions and seem to have conflicting beliefs often have the same underlying values. It is important to be able to recognize these values because they are the common ground that can be used to solve conflicts and create positive change that benefits people regardless of culture.

**Identify:** Within our classroom we have many different cultures represented. Within each of these cultures there are unique traditions and beliefs. Identify a tradition that your family practices that is unique – this might be food you eat, family celebrations, religious celebrations, holidays, unique places you shop, funeral customs, wedding customs, birth/birthday customs, dating customs, clothing/attire... anything unique to your family or your culture.

**Research:** Next, you need to gather some information: What is the **origin and history** of this custom? How does your family practice the custom? What other interesting information on this topic can you find? In order to get this information you will need to conduct an interview, look online (be sure your sources are valid and cited) and/or gather information from the library. Lastly, you need to relate your family’s tradition to a tradition of the Ibo people. While the practice of the traditions might appear to be very different, your job is to **discuss the shared values.**

**Organize and Present:** Your presentation needs to be between **3-5 minutes**. You must describe the custom, discuss what it means to you and other members of your family, answer the questions that guided your research, explain what values are revealed through the practice of this custom, and link your tradition to an Ibo tradition that shares the same values. Your presentation must be engaging, interesting, and include a flag that represents you and your family. You will be graded on the following criteria:

- Quality of your flag – This should represent your culture and the custom/tradition presented. A political flag is unacceptable.
- Eye contact – Prepare and practice. You **must** use a Prezi or a PowerPoint to highlight important information during your presentation. \*You will lose points if you simply read PowerPoint slides to the class.
- Articulation –Use diction that is specific to your tradition and culture. Speak with purpose. Show interest in your topic and confidence in your knowledge.
- Content – Thorough, interesting and relevant.

You must turn in a typed copy of your information as well the PowerPoint/Prezi you used for your presentation.

Attach this paper to your typed write up. On the day you present you will hand this paper to Mr. Balogh and he will use the following rubric to give you a grade. (You will lose points for being unprepared)

Criteria	Excellent 4	Good 3	Adequate 2	Poor/ Lacks effort 1
Flag				
Content				
Eye Contact				
Articulation				
Preparedness – ppt., Prezi, rubric, time limit				

**Total: \_\_\_\_\_ / 60**