

## literary elements

- settings that contrast each other
- the protagonist's traits as a tragic hero
- & — as foils to each other
- the simile comparing — to —
- symbolism involving nature
- imagery** (a specific sense)
- the Ibo proverb about —
- the ostensibly unrelated story about —
- irony (subversion of expectations)
- the third-person omniscient narrator's ever-shifting perspective
- juxtaposition of — & —  
(parallels & contrasts)

## thematic motifs

- destiny / fate & free will
- fear & insecurity
- tradition / customs & change
- gender (masculinity / femininity)
- individual & community
- language / communication
- pride / respect / status / reputation
- the natural world
- family / home & alienation
- justice / violence

## Things Fall Apart Journal #4B

A) Grab an index card.

B) Build your own prompt. Use the two lists above to create a prompt that asks a student to analyze how Achebe's choices as the author impact, shape, and develop thematic meaning in the novel. Be sure not to ask a question that's too simple, as it won't show off any impressive analysis; however, be certain to also not make it so complicated that it's impossible to adequately answer. Use ink on your index card. Include your name and block. And please use the following frame:

**In Ch. \_\_\_, how does Achebe's [use of one of the literary elements on the left] develop the novel's presentation of [one of the thematic motifs on the right]? Include appropriate textual support.**

B) Trade with any classmate with whom you haven't worked today.

C) Respond in your journal. In your comp book, for next block, record your peer's prompt at the top of a fresh page; underline it. Take some time to explore the relevant chapter, and plan a response that you can support with textual evidence. Be sure to include a relevant, woven, cited quotation in your analytical response.



# RUBRIC

BLUE

AUTHORIAL CHOICE

clearly identified:  
AUTHOR,  
TERM, &  
HOW IT'S USED

2

vaguely treated  
(only AUTHOR & TERM)

1

mere restatement  
of prompt

0

TEXTUAL EVIDENCE

GREEN

relevant &  
woven/cited

2

relevant  
but not  
w./c.

1

irrelevant  
or not present

0

PINK

COMMENTARY

explains  
a specific  
impact of  
the choice

2

only connects  
the choice  
to plot events

1

no explanation  
of impacts/  
effects

0

DEVELOPMENT  
of THEMATIC  
CONCEPT(S)

PURPLE

explicitly  
states how  
IDEAS are  
introduced,  
challenged,  
reinforced,  
subverted, or  
complicated by  
the choice

1

does not  
clearly deal  
with how  
an IDEA is  
developed - all  
plot, no  
thought

0