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Humanities Period 1

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### Things Change, Then They Fall Apart

#### I. Introduction

- a. “Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.” (Kennedy)
- b. The colonization of Africa predicated great change and this change is reflected in Chinua Achebe’s novel *Things Fall Apart*.

#### II. Body Paragraph 1 – Religion

- a. African religion had been the main focal point of European colonization, and this forced abandonment of African polytheism would cause major turmoil within Umuofia and Okonkwo’s tribe.
- b. They viewed their worship of multiple gods as absurd and “they denied Africans of having a culture, history and a belief in a Supreme God. R. F. Burton, for example cast aspersion on the religion of the Negroes he met in the course of his consular work in 1863. He denied them of any belief in God and any sense of morality” (Gbenda).
- c. This change brought about by the skewed views of the Christian colonization proved to be detrimental to the stability of Okonkwo’s family.
- d. However, “...there was a young lad who had been captivated. His name was Nwoye, Okonkwo’s first son (...) He did not understand it. It was the poetry of the new religion, something felt in the marrow” (Achebe 147).

- e. Another change that colonization brought to Africa would impact how the people of Africa were governed.
- III. Body Paragraph 2 – Government
- a. TS – Make sure every topic sentence has Africa change, *Things Fall Apart Change*, and the area of change (i.e. religion, government...)
  - b. CD – Must be a research quote
  - c. PT – Be sure to transition from your discussion of Africa to a specific discussion of the novel
  - d. CD – Must be a *Things Fall Apart* quote
  - e. TRANS – Transition to your next body paragraph
- IV. Body Paragraph 3 – Education
- a. TS – Make sure every topic sentence has Africa change, *Things Fall Apart Change*, and the area of change (i.e. religion, government...)
  - b. CD – Must be a research quote
  - c. PT - Be sure to transition from your discussion of Africa to a specific discussion of the novel
  - d. CD – Must be a *Things Fall Apart* quote
- V. Conclusion
- a. *Things Fall Apart* is a direct reflection of the change that occurred in Africa created by colonization.
  - b. Change in society is inevitable; it is the way the world works. However, sometime this change can tear down a culture and may never be repaired.