



Things Fall Apart Okonkwo Versus Nwoye

Although they are father and son, Okonkwo and Nwoye are very different characters. Each has very different interests, desires, and motivations, yet the characters do share some core values.

Read and analyze the following key passages to compare and contrast Okonkwo and Nwoye. Examine each passage in terms of what it reveals about each characters' interests, desires, motivations, and values. Record your observations in the Venn diagram.

Okonkwo

Chapter 2, p. 13, and chapter 3, pp. 16–18: Okonkwo's start in life

Chapter 4, pp. 30–32: Okonkwo beating his wife during the Week of Peace

Chapter 8, p. 63: Okonkwo's emotional aftermath of the killing of Ikemefuna

Chapter 18, pp. 158–159, and Chapter 24, pp. 199–201: Okonkwo's reaction to the missionaries

Nwoye

Chapter 2, pp. 13–15: Nwoye's beatings by Okonkwo

Chapter 4, pp. 34–35: Nwoye's relationship with Ikemefuna

Chapter 7, pp. 52–53: Nwoye's love of stories; pp. 60–61: Ikemefuna's murder

Chapter 16, pp. 144–147: Nwoye's reaction to the missionaries' stories

RL.9–10.3 Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

