

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

According to Oprah, this is one of “five top-shelf books that will blow open your understanding of the world.”

Lolita, Waiting for Godot, Four Quartets,

The Wisdom of the Desert: Sayings of the Desert Fathers From the Fourth Century

Schedule

- Week 1
 - Mon. Reading Day
 - Tues. Intro notes
 - Wed. Quiz 1-4
 - Thurs. Activity
 - Fri. Quiz 5-9
- Week 2
 - Mon. Quiz 10-13
 - Tues. Quiz 14-17
 - Wed. Quiz 18-14
 - Thurs. Activity
 - Fri. Final reading test--Prompts
- Week 3
 - Mon. Work day
 - Tues. Work day
 - Wed. Peer Grading

Achebe

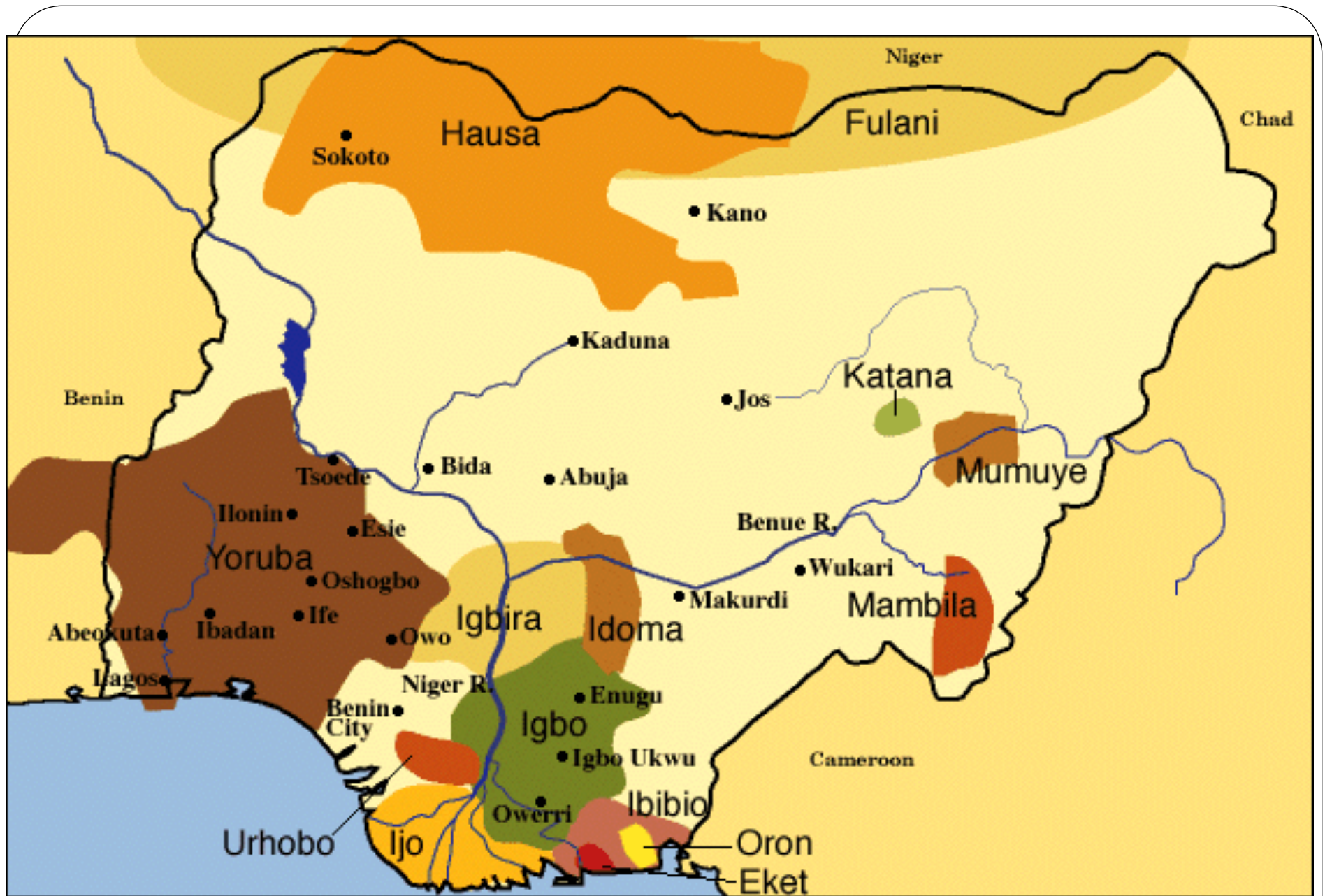
- B. 1930 in eastern Nigeria among missionaries
- Father taught school under the Church Missionary Society
- A senior research fellow at University of Nigeria
- Lived with his wife and 4 children in Nigeria until a car accident in 1990 left him paralyzed from the waist down. (Now he lives in U.S. at Bard College.)
- As a writer he's known for his spare prose and for illuminating two emotional facets of African life:
 - The humiliation of colonization
 - The worthlessness of what replaced colonial rule

Things Fall Apart (1958)

- Provides a vivid picture of the Ibo society at the end of the 19th century (1890's).
- A more powerful culture disrupts the traditional values, causing the traditional society to fall apart.
- Told from an omniscient POV

Terms

- Colonialism
- Polygamy
- Polytheism
- A power extending control over another area.
- More than one wife of a husband at the same time.
- The worship or belief of many gods, each with his or her own function.



Three major ethnic groups in Nigeria: the Hausa, Ibo, and Yoruba

The Danger of a Single Story

