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 AP English Lit. and Comp. Per.8
 Grade 11
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Things Fall Apart- Take home quiz

1. Who is called the Cat, and why?

Amalinze was a great wrestler who remained undefeated throughout many villages. He is called Amalinze the Cat because his back never touched the ground.

2. Why did Okonkwo have no respect for his father, Unoka?

Okonkwo had no respect for his father, Unoka, because his father was lazy and unproductive. In their village gaining a title equates to respect and a comfortable life for your family. Unoka, however, was an expert on putting himself into large amounts of debt that was never repaid, even after he died. Okonkwo swore that he would never be anything like his father and has proven himself true by earning a high title in the village at a young age.

3. Describe Okonkwo and his "families".

4. Okoye came to visit Unoka concerning what issue, how was the issue resolved?

Okoye came to Unoka concerning Unoka's debt. Okoye was about to undertake a HUGE position in the village of Umofia. This position was initiated by a large ceremony, which was also very expensive. Unoka had borrowed 200 cowries from Okoye about 2 years ago. This is why Okoye came to see Unoka. The issue was not resolved because Unoka had larger debts than the one he owed to Okoye. The smallest of them was 1,000 cowries. Unoka claimed that that he would pay the largest debts first. However, he did without paying any.

5. What is the importance of the Kola to the people of the IBO community?

Kola nuts, as well as palm-wine, are constantly mentioned, especially during ceremonies, to focus on the traditional hospitality of the Ibo people. When Okoye came to see Unoka, to collect his debt, they did not start talking about it immediately and instead, Unoka proposed his guest kola, because it was a symbol of hospitality. They started arguing, because they couldn't decide on who was to break the kola nut, until eventually Unoka "accepted the honour of breaking the kola". This phrase, when kola nuts are just introduced, signifies how honorable and respectable it is for a person to break a kola nut. Breaking a kola nut is a very spiritual process, as when Unoka broke the kola nut, he "prayed to their ancestors for life and health, and for protection against their enemies", and Okoye drew some lines and his big toe on the floor, just for this short "ceremony". Only after they have eaten, Okoye reminded him why he came to see Unoka. By this, the reader can see that kola nut is a very significant object in the Ibo community, as it is also a symbol of respect to the guest and is offered on a regular basis, just like in other cultures, you offer your guest something to drink when they visit you, but however, the process of breaking it is more honorable and more spiritual.

6. Explain this quote from the novel, "If a child washed his hands he could eat with kings."

The phrase means that if a child had a tainted history because of his family's past, he would make up for it and regain his status in society. For example: Okonkwo was given a terrible name because of his lazy and unproductive father. However, he chose to lead a different life and proved himself to be worthy of everyone's time. Okonkwo gained two very high titles, become the best wrestler among 9 villages; all at a very young age. Okonkwo had already become one of the greatest men of his time. "Age was respected among his people, but achievement was revered."

7. What is the understanding of how and why Ikemefuma comes to live with Okonkwo and his families?

Ikemefuma comes to Umuofia and resides with Okonkwo as a part of an agreement. A woman, from the village of Umuofia, had gone to the market in another village, Mbaino, and was murdered there. This enraged the townspeople of Umuofia to the point where they had decided an ultimatum for Mbaino. The ultimatum asked them to choose between war on one hand, and on the other offer a young man and a virgin as compensation. The virgin went to replace the woman, who had been killed, as a wife. And Okonkwo, as a request from the clan, was asked to look after the boy until his fate was decided.

8. Why is Umuofia feared by all its neighbors?

Umuofia is feared by all its neighbors because it is powerful in war as well as magic and its priests and medicine men were feared. Okonkwo was also widely known for his strength and was widely respected and honoured.

9. Who is Agbala, what is her place in the village community?

Agbala is a priestess and is formally known as The Oracle. Agbala is consulted by those who want to know their future, consult the spirits of dead relatives, and to simply seek knowledge.

10. How does the setting affect the general environment of the novel? Cite an example.**11. What is the tone and mood of this novel-cite 2 examples.**