Chinua Achebe
Things Fall Apart

Name: _____

Reading Quiz: Ch. 1-8

Directions: Choose the BEST answer to the following questions:

____ 1. When Okonkwo survives the drought and torrential rains during the first year of tending his farm, he is convinced that he can "survive anything" because of his

(A) analytical mind
(B) inflexible will
(C) undying patience
(D) personal loyalty
(E) unbounded optimism

____ 2. Noticing Okonkwo's "brusqueness in dealing with less successful men," one of the elders of the clan suggests—through the use of an Ibo proverb—that Okonkwo needs to learn humility when he states,

(A) "The sun will shine on those who stand before those who kneel under them."
(B) "When the moon is shining, the cripple becomes hungry for a walk."
(C) "You can tell a ripe corn by its look."
(D) "When a man says yes, his *chi* says yes also."
(E) "Looking at a king's mouth, one would think he never sucked at his mother's breast."

____ 3. When Ikemefuna runs towards Okonkwo after being struck by the machete of an elder clansmen, Okonkwo draws his own machete and cuts the boy down because he is

(A) embarrassed by Ikemefuna's pitiful crying
(B) concerned that Ikemefuna might suffer further
(C) angry that the boy has willfully betrayed him
(D) afraid of being thought weak by the other men
(E) wanting to fulfill the Oracle's decree himself

____ 4. The night that Ikemefuna is killed, "something seemed to give way inside [Nwoye], like the snapping of a tightened bow," implying that Ikemefuna's death caused Nwoye to feel a deep sense of

(A) anger
(B) relief
(C) despair
(D) regret
(E) fear

____ 5. When Okonkwo's friend, Obierika, tells him that he did not participate in the killing of Ikemefuna because "he had something better to do," we are meant to see him as a character who is

(A) willing to question Igbo customs and traditions
(B) defiant of all decrees sent forth by the Oracle
(C) opposed to all forms of violence and bloodshed
(D) convinced that only Okonkwo should have killed Ikemefuna
(E) too selfish to actively participate in village life

Answer Key:

1. B
2. E
3. D
4. C
5. A