






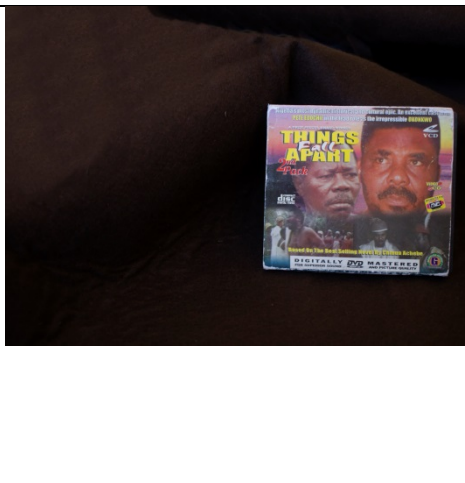




## *Things Fall Apart* Discovery Box

<b>Item</b>	<b>Photo</b>	<b>Description</b>
Cowry Shells/Cowry Necklace		<p>These small egg-shaped shells were used as money until the 1800s, not only in Nigeria, but in regions throughout the world. During Okonkwo's time, Igbo men paid twenty five bags of cowry shells as bride price. Cowry shells were also used for other payments, such as the fine Umuofia people had to pay for their leaders to be released after the incident where a church was destroyed. Cowry shells were also used to make necklaces.</p>
Cocoa Bean Rattle		<p>Cocoa beans originated in South America and were brought to Nigeria by the British in the late-1800s. Nigeria produced cocoa for export during British colonialism and continued to be a major exporter of cocoa—which is used to make chocolate—after independence. Cocoa</p>

		<p>bean rattles like this one are often used by women in southern Nigeria during cultural events and dance festivals. Igbo women wear a waist belt rattle, an ankle rattle on each leg, and hold a rattle in each hand while they dance.</p>
<p>Black Shirt (<i>Isiagu</i>)</p>		<p>This type of shirt—called an <i>isiagu</i>—is considered “modern traditional” attire (or modern clothing which gestures to traditional styles). It is worn by titled men in Igbo society such as chiefs and elders. The shirt was usually worn with a wrapper and has the face of a lion to symbolize bravery and power.</p>
<p>Red Hat</p>		<p>This hat was worn by titled men in the Igbo society to go along with the <i>isiagu</i>. The red hat was a symbol of fire and could only be worn by the powerful. The color red itself is considered sacred and is said to be a characteristic of the spirits of the land, the <i>Agbala</i> in <i>Things Fall Apart</i>.</p>

<p>Red Necklace</p>		<p>In addition to an <i>isiagu</i> and a red hat, high-status men wore red necklaces. The red necklace represents nobility and wealth.</p>
<p>Women's Clothing</p>		<p>These are outfits worn by Igbo women. Women visit the market to buy cloth and then bring the cloth to a seamstress to design their clothing. Typically women opt for western dress for most of the week, but wear outfits made from these popular cloths on Fridays or for special occasions like weddings.</p>
<p>CDs</p>		<p>Contemporary Nigerian music purchased in Nigeria in 2009.</p>
<p>Things Fall Apart DVD</p>		<p>Filmed and produced in Nigeria in 1987, this DVD features a TV show adaptation of Achebe's <i>Things Fall Apart</i> and gives a sense of the novel's setting—Igbo land in the 1890s.</p> <p>[Note: these are old DVDs and work best when run through a computer]</p>