Prereading Vocabulary Worksheets-*Things Fall Apart*, p. 3

Chapters 5-7

Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Context Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence.

Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think

the underlined words mean in the space provided.

1. The new year must begin with tasty, fresh yams and not the shriveled and *fibrous* crop of the previous year.
2. All cooking pots, *calabashes*, and wooden bowls were thoroughly washed, especially the wooden mortar in which yam was pounded.
3. The drums rose to a *frenzy*.
4. Old men nodded to the beat of the drums and remembered the days when they wrestled to its *intoxicating* rhythm.
5. Within a short time the two *bouts* were over.
6. Nwoye would *feign* annoyance and grumble aloud about women and their troubles.
7. And when he did this he saw that his father was pleased, and no longer *rebuked* him.
8. They went back to their caves in a distant land, where they were guarded by a race of *stunted* men.
9. They were the *harbingers* sent to survey the land.
10. Okonkwo sat in his obi crunching happily with Ikemefuna and Nwoye, and drinking palm-wine *copiously*..

Part II: Determining the Meaning Match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions.

\_\_\_\_ 1. fibrous A. forerunners

\_\_\_\_ 2. calabashes B. criticized; reprimanded

\_\_\_\_ 3. Frenzy C. contests; matches

\_\_\_\_ 4. intoxicating D. violent mental agitation; wild excitement

\_\_\_\_ 5. bouts E. threadlike

\_\_\_\_ 6. feign F. abundantly

\_\_\_\_ 7. Rebuked G. stopped from growing

\_\_\_\_ 8. stunted H. pretend; represent falsely

\_\_\_\_ 9. Harbingers I. stimulating or exciting

\_\_\_\_10. copiously J. containers made from dried gourds