



## Igbo Proverbs from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe



How does literature convey culture? What is universal across cultures?

Proverb	Message /Lesson	Symbols/ Figures of Speech	Similarities/ Differences	Type of Proverb (category)
1. An old woman is always uneasy when dry bones are mentioned in a proverb.				
2. An animal rubs its aching flank against a tree; a man asks his kinsman to scratch him.				
3. When the moon is shining, the cripple becomes hungry for a walk.				
4. Those whose palm-kernels were cracked for them by a benevolent spirit should not forget to be humble.				
5. As the elders said, if one finger brought oil it soiled the others.				
6. The lizard that jumped from the high Iroko tree to the ground said he would praise himself if no one else did.				
7. A child's finger is not scalded by a piece of hot yam which its mother puts into its palm.				

