*Things Fall Apart* (1958, written by Chinua Achebe)

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| Vocabulary | Paraphrase | Sample sentence |
| Improvident | Wasteful | The improvident worker saved no money. |
| Uncanny | Supernatural, spooky |  |
| Contemptible | Despicable |  |
| Poignant | Sharp, touching |  |
| Inflexible | Strict, stubborn |  |
| Inadvertent | Unintentional |  |
| Calamity | Disaster |  |
| Resignation | Surrender, patience |  |
| Effeminate | Unmanly, wimpy |  |
| Approbation | Approval, praise |  |
| Esoteric | Mysterious |  |
| Callow | Immature, naïve |  |
| Miscreant | Villain |  |
| To mutilate | To mangle, to damage |  |