*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  |  |