

Americanah

Novel Analysis: as I check your critical reading...

- Which of her sentences resonated with you? Pick one or two to share with your group.
- How would you describe Adichie's style in this novel excerpt?
 - How is her fiction-writing style similar to or different from the style of her Ted Talk?
- Who is Ifemelu? Why 3rd POV?
- What characters are introduced, and what is the effect of each?
- What themes emerge in the novel's exposition?

We Should All Be Feminists

Content Analysis

- Which of her assertions resonated with you?
- How is the Nigerian construct of masculinity a “cage”? Evaluate the extent to which that is true in the West as well.
- How is the Nigerian construct of femininity asking girls to “shrink” themselves? Evaluate the extent to which that is true in the West as well.
- While analyzing constructs of Nigerian masculinity, Adichie asks “what if whoever had more would pay?” as an ideal, showing charity as a Nigerian cultural foundation. Is the American ideal—everyone should earn their own money and pay their own way—better or worse? #bootstraps

Thursday's Discussion: Social Justice/Feminism

Together and separately, what does each text say about gender equality and its pursuit?

- “Wreck it Ralph 2: Ralph Breaks the Internet”—2018 film excerpt
- Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
 - “We Should All Be Feminists”—2012 Ted Talk (London)
 - *Americanah*— 2013 novel excerpt
- TIME Magazine: “Many American Men Have a Skewed View of Gender Inequality, TIME Poll Finds” 9.26.19 Online Article

Homework

- Critically read the introduction from Dr. [Roxanne Gay's](#) 2014 book of essays *Bad Feminist* for tomorrow's class.
- As we discussed in class, in order to show the very provocative and deeply personal nature of this social justice topic, there are a few sentences in the text relating to feminism and sexuality that you're not required to read.
- Rather than censor all the vital ideas in the critically-acclaimed essay from you, you can choose to read the [unabridged](#) or the [abridged](#) version.