

# Animal Farm by George Orwell: A Text Guide

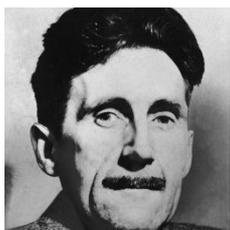


Name:

Class:

Teacher:

# George Orwell – A03



Born Eric Arthur Blair, **George Orwell** was born in India on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1903. His father was an official in the Indian Civil Service at the time of the British Empire, but once the family returned to England Orwell became deeply aware of how poor his family was – a factor which would be hugely influential in his later writing.

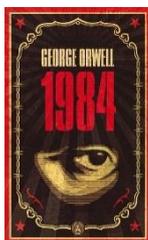
He obtained a scholarship to Eton (one of the finest schools in the country), an experience which shaped his way of thinking. He often felt aware of his poverty there, but also praised the way Eton encouraged individuality.

In 1922, he decided to join the Indian Imperial Police rather than take the conventional path to Oxford or Cambridge Universities, demonstrating that he was preferred to think outside of the box and do the unexpected. After five years, he quite the Imperial Police, mainly because he was unhappy about the way Britain ruled in India.

Some people feel that the disgust and guilt he felt whilst in the police influenced his decision to go to Paris in 1927, Here, he worked in a series of poorly paid jobs. He was fascinated by those worst off in society and wrote about them in his first major book: **Down and Out In Paris & London**.

Orwell was a socialist, which contradicted his patriotic ideas about England. Also, as he got older he became anti-Communist, which seems to contradict his socialist views (you will read more about Communism later). When World War II broke out, he tried to enlist but was rejected thanks to his ill-health.

He worked in various journalistic jobs – for the BBC, The Observer and the Manchester Evening News, marrying twice and eventually moving to the Scottish island of Jura. This was for the sake of his health – it was believed the clean air would be good for him. This didn't work, and the tuberculosis which affected him for many years would eventually kill him in 1950.



His most famous books were published shortly before his death. **Animal Farm**, published in 1945, was a criticism of the Soviet Union and Communism disguised as a simple story about animals taking over a farm (we'll look at this in much more detail later). Published in 1949, **1984** became one of the most influential novels ever written. It tells of a society where individuals are constantly watched and controlled by the government – it gave us phrases like Big Brother, thought-crime and Room 101.

## What is socialism?

Socialism is a way to organise a society.

It deals mostly with the economy, or the part of a society that creates wealth. The goal of socialism is to spread wealth more evenly and to treat all people fairly. People have had different ideas about how to create a socialist society. But most have agreed that the government, not individuals, should control at least some businesses and property.

## What is capitalism?

An economic system that features private ownership of the means of production (such as factories, offices, and shipping enterprises) and in which market forces determine the way in which goods are produced and the means by which income and profit are distributed is called capitalism.

In capitalist societies, some people may become very rich while others remain poor.

# The Simplified Story

Old Major, a prize-winning boar, gathers the animals of the Manor Farm for a meeting in the big barn. He tells them of a dream he's had in which all animals live together with no human beings to oppress or control them. He tells the animals they must work toward such a paradise and teaches them a song called "Beasts of England," in which his dream vision is described. The animals greet Major's vision with great enthusiasm. When he dies three nights after the meeting, three younger pigs—Snowball, Napoleon, and Squealer—turn his main principles into a philosophy called Animalism. Late one night, the animals manage to defeat Jones the farmer in a battle, running him off the land. They rename the property Animal Farm and dedicate themselves to achieving Major's dream. The horse Boxer devotes himself to the cause with particular zeal, committing his great strength to the prosperity of the farm and by stating, "I will work harder."

At first, Animal Farm prospers. Snowball works at teaching the animals to read, and Napoleon takes a group of young puppies to educate them in the principles of Animalism. When Mr. Jones reappears to take back his farm, the animals defeat him again, in what comes to be known as the Battle of the Cowshed, and take the farmer's abandoned gun as a symbol of their victory. As time passes, however, Napoleon and Snowball increasingly argue over the future of the farm, and begin to struggle with each other for power and influence. Snowball concocts a scheme to build an electricity-generating windmill, but Napoleon solidly opposes the plan. At the meeting to vote on whether to take up the project, Snowball gives a passionate speech. Although Napoleon gives only a brief retort, he then makes a strange noise, and nine attack dogs—the puppies that Napoleon had confiscated in order to "educate"—burst into the barn and chase Snowball from the farm. Napoleon assumes leadership of Animal Farm and declares that there will be no more meetings. From that point on, he asserts, the pigs alone will make all of the decisions—for the good of every animal.

Napoleon now quickly changes his mind about the windmill, and the animals, especially Boxer, devote their efforts to completing it. One day, after a storm, the animals find the windmill toppled. The human farmers in the area declare smugly that the animals made the walls too thin, but Napoleon claims that Snowball returned to the farm to sabotage the windmill. He stages a great purge, during which various animals who have allegedly participated in Snowball's great conspiracy—meaning any animal who opposes Napoleon's uncontested leadership—meet instant death at the teeth of the attack dogs. With his leadership unquestioned (Boxer has taken up a second maxim, "Napoleon is always right"), Napoleon begins expanding his powers, rewriting history to make Snowball a villain. Napoleon also begins to act more and more like a human being—sleeping in a bed, drinking whisky, and engaging in trade with neighboring farmers. The original Animalist principles strictly forbade such activities, but Squealer, Napoleon's propagandist, justifies every action to the other animals, convincing them that Napoleon is a great leader and is making things better for everyone—despite the fact that the common animals are cold, hungry, and overworked.

Mr. Frederick, a neighboring farmer, cheats Napoleon in the purchase of some timber and then attacks the farm and dynamites the windmill, which had been rebuilt at great expense. After the demolition of the windmill, a pitched battle ensues, during which Boxer receives major wounds. The animals rout the farmers, but Boxer's injuries weaken him. When he later falls while working on the windmill, he senses that his time has nearly come. One day, Boxer is nowhere to be found. According to Squealer, Boxer has died in peace after having been taken to the hospital, praising the Rebellion with his last breath. In actuality, Napoleon has sold his most loyal and long-suffering worker to a glue maker in order to get money for whisky.

Years pass on Animal Farm, and the pigs become more and more like human beings—walking upright, carrying whips, and wearing clothes. Eventually, the seven principles of Animalism, known as the Seven Commandments and inscribed on the side of the barn, become reduced to a single principle reading "all animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others." Napoleon entertains a human farmer named Mr. Pilkington at a dinner and declares his intent to ally himself with the human farmers against the laboring classes of both the human and animal communities. He also changes the name of Animal Farm back to the Manor Farm, claiming that this title is the "correct" one. Looking in at the party of elites through the farmhouse window, the common animals can no longer tell which are the pigs and which are the human beings.

# Key Vocabulary

Find the definitions of these key terms, and draw a symbol to help you remember each one.

**Allegory (noun)**

A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one

**Anthropomorphic (adj)**

Animals with human qualities can be described as anthropomorphic

**Fable (noun)**

A short story, typically with animal characters, making a moral point

**Irony (noun)**

Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite

**Jargon (noun)**

Special words used by a group or profession which are difficult for others to understand

**Maxim (noun)**

A short sentence showing a wider truth or idea

**Obfuscate (verb)**

Making something unclear or hard to understand

**Propaganda (noun)**

Information which is often misleading or biased, used to promote a political cause or POV

**Capitalism (noun)**

A political system where a country's trade and industry are owned by individuals, not the state

**Bourgeoisie (noun)**

Middle class, more wealthy members of a society

**Pseudonym (noun)**

A fictitious name, often used by a writer

**Satire (noun)**

Using humour and ridicule to criticise people's stupidity and faults

<p><b>Symbolism (noun)</b> Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.</p>	<p><b>Utopia (noun)</b> A perfect society</p>	<p><b>Dystopia (noun)</b> A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</p>
<p><b>Proletariat (noun)</b> The working classes</p>	<p><b>Marxism/socialism (noun)</b> The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly.</p>	<p><b>Indoctrinate (verb)</b> To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own</p>
<p><b>Dictator (noun)</b> A ruler with total power</p>	<p><b>Totalitarian (adj)</b> A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience</p>	<p><b>Tyrant (noun)</b> A cruel and oppressive ruler</p>
<p><b>Subversive (adj)</b> Intended to disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things</p>	<p><b>Republic (noun)</b> A state where power is held by an elected representative</p>	<p><b>Democracy (noun)</b> A state where everyone has a say in how things are run</p>

Task: Rewrite a summary of the plot of *Animal Farm*, using as many of these words as you can.

# AO3 Context: Communism and Karl Marx

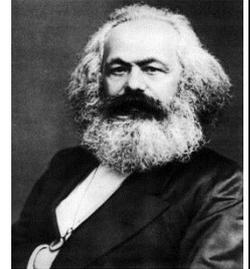
*Major's speech is based on the work of German philosopher, Karl Marx.*

*Marx believed that capitalists exploit the proletariat in the same way that the animals believe humans treat them. Marx believed that this exploitation would only stop if the proletariat (in this case, the animals) revolted.*

**Capitalists** = the rich people who own the means of production, like factories

**Proletariat** = the working classes – those who work for the capitalists

The Communist Manifesto is an 1848 political pamphlet by German philosophers Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Originally published in London just as the revolutions of 1848 began to erupt, the Manifesto was later recognised as one of the world's most influential political manuscripts. It presents an analytical approach to the class struggle and the problems of capitalism and the capitalist mode of production, rather than a prediction of communism's potential future forms.



The Communist Manifesto summarises Marx and Engels' theories about the nature of society and politics, that in their own words, "The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles". It also briefly features their ideas for how the capitalist society of the time would eventually be replaced by socialism.



## So what is Communism?

Communism is an advanced form of socialism. Its aim is for a society with no classes whatsoever – everyone would be equal, money would be unnecessary and the means of production would be shared. In a truly Communist society, all decisions would be made for the good of everyone, not just a few individuals.

What is capitalism?

What part of society are the animals meant to represent? Why?

What is socialism?

What part of society are the humans meant to represent? Why?

What is communism?

What did Marx believe would end capitalism?

- a) Communism
- b) More freedom
- c) A capitalist revolution
- d) A revolution of the proletariat

What is the definition of 'exploitation'?

- a) The action of being deceitful towards others
- b) Having too much pride in yourself
- c) The action of using others unfairly for your own gain
- d) The act of blackmailing others

## Chapter One: Major's Dream

**AO1:** Mr \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Manor Farm, tries to lock up the farm for the night but is too \_\_\_\_\_. The animals are all called to a \_\_\_\_\_ which is being held by \_\_\_\_\_, the prize-winning \_\_\_\_\_. He tells the animals about a \_\_\_\_\_ he has had, about a future where animals can live in \_\_\_\_\_, and are not \_\_\_\_\_ by humans. The animals all join in a song called \_\_\_\_\_ to demonstrate their enthusiasm towards Major's dream.

**drunk      exploited      meeting      boar      Old Major      Jones**  
**dream      freedom      Beasts of England**

### Chapter One Key terms:

Exploitation

Unity

Anthropomorphic

Idealised

Revolution

Utopia

### Key Quotations:

*Explode these quotations: what do they mean (AO1), do they have deeper significance (AO2), why have specific words been used (AO2)?*

*'consumes without producing'*

*'All animals are comrades'*

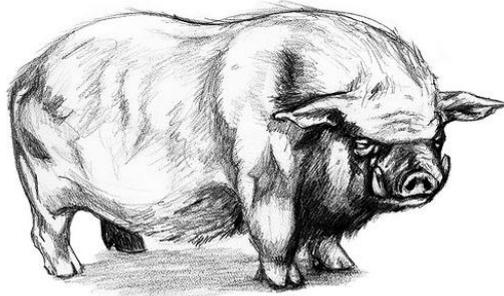
*'No animal in England is free'*

## Who is Old Major?

Old Major is seen as a kindly pig who is a natural leader. He's the oldest animal on the farm and has acquired much wisdom. Many believe that he represents Lenin.

His speech is the basis of the novel: the struggle for freedom and to establish a fairer, more equal society. He suggests a utopian society in which cruelty and suffering are just distant memories.

His ideas are basically those of communism, which formed the basis of Lenin's government in Russia during the 1920s.



## Who is Lenin?

Lenin set up the Russian Communist Party and became the first leader of the Soviet Union after he led a revolution against the Tsar.

Although at times his rule was brutal, he wanted a fairer society and under his leadership, land was taken from the rich and divided between poor peasants.

He did not trust Joseph Stalin – who came to power after him – he felt he was dangerous to the country and the government.

Lenin died of a stroke in 1924.



## What is Old Major's point?

Man is the only real enemy we have. Remove man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished for ever. Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself.

*Old Major*

Reduce Old Major's argument into a six word maxim...

Remember, comrades, your resolution must never falter. No argument must lead you astray. Never listen when they tell you that Man and the animals have a common interest, that the prosperity of the one is the prosperity of the other. It is all lies. Man serves the interests of no creature except himself. And among us animals let there be perfect unity, perfect comradeship in the struggle. All men are enemies. All animals are comrades.

*Old Major*

Reduce Old Major's argument into an eight word maxim...

<p><b>1. An allegory is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one</li> <li>b) A short story, typically with animal characters, making a moral point</li> <li>c) A short sentence showing a wider truth or idea</li> <li>d) A perfect society</li> </ul>	<p><b>2. Anthropomorphism is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Describing animals with human qualities</li> <li>b) Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite</li> <li>c) Information which is often misleading or biased, used to promote a political cause or POV</li> <li>d) A fictitious name, often used by a writer</li> </ul>	<p><b>3. A fable is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one</li> <li>b) A short story, typically with animal characters, making a moral point</li> <li>c) A short sentence showing a wider truth or idea</li> <li>d) Describing animals with human qualities</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Irony is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Information which is often misleading or biased</li> <li>b) Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.</li> <li>c) Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite</li> <li>d) To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own</li> </ul>	<p><b>5. Jargon is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Middle class, more wealthy members of a society</li> <li>b) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one</li> <li>c) Special words used by a group or profession which are difficult for others to understand</li> <li>d) Intended to disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things</li> </ul>	<p><b>6. A maxim is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one</li> <li>b) The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly</li> <li>c) A short sentence showing a wider truth or idea</li> <li>d) Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. To obfuscate is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Making something unclear or hard to understand</li> <li>b) To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own</li> <li>c) To disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things</li> <li>d) Describing animals with human qualities</li> </ul>	<p><b>8. Propaganda is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Special words used by a group or profession which are difficult for others to understand</li> <li>b) Information which is often misleading or biased</li> <li>c) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one</li> <li>d) Using humour and ridicule to criticise people's stupidity and faults</li> </ul>	<p><b>9. Capitalism is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A state where everyone has a say in how things are run</li> <li>b) A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience</li> <li>c) A political system where a country's trade and industry are owned by individuals, not the state</li> <li>d) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. The bourgeoisie are...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The working classes</li> <li>b) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>c) A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience</li> <li>d) Middle class, more wealthy members of a society</li> </ul>	<p><b>11. A pseudonym is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>b) A political system where a country's trade and industry are owned by individuals, not the state</li> <li>c) A fictitious name, often used by a writer</li> <li>d) A cruel and oppressive ruler</li> </ul>	<p><b>12. Satire is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.</li> <li>b) To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own</li> <li>c) Using humour and ridicule to criticise people's stupidity and faults</li> <li>d) A state where power is held by an elected representative</li> </ul>
<p><b>13. Symbolism is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Information which is often misleading or biased</li> <li>b) Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite</li> <li>c) Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.</li> <li>d) To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own</li> </ul>	<p><b>14. A utopia is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>b) Intended to disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things</li> <li>c) The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly.</li> <li>d) A perfect society</li> </ul>	<p><b>15. A dystopia is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>b) The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly.</li> <li>c) A state where power is held by an elected representative</li> <li>d) Intended to disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things</li> </ul>
<p><b>16. The proletariat are...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The working classes</li> <li>b) The middle classes</li> <li>c) The ruling classes</li> <li>d) The upper classes</li> </ul>	<p><b>17. Marxism/socialism is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly</li> <li>b) A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience</li> <li>c) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>d) Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite</li> </ul>	<p><b>18. To indoctrinate is to...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Use special words which are difficult for others to understand</li> <li>b) Provide information which is often misleading or biased</li> <li>c) Tell a story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one</li> <li>d) Teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own</li> </ul>
<p><b>19. A dictator (noun)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A ruler with total power</li> <li>b) A cruel and oppressive ruler</li> <li>c) A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience</li> <li>d) Intended to disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things</li> </ul>	<p><b>20. Totalitarian describes...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A state where everyone has a say in how things are run</li> <li>b) A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience</li> <li>c) A cruel and oppressive ruler</li> <li>d) Information which is often misleading or biased</li> </ul>	<p><b>21. A tyrant is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A cruel and oppressive ruler</li> <li>b) A ruler with total power</li> <li>c) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>d) A perfect society</li> </ul>
<p><b>22. A republic is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>b) A state where power is held by an elected representative</li> <li>c) A state where everyone has a say in how things are run</li> <li>d) The political belief that society should be organised fairly and equally</li> </ul>	<p><b>23. A democracy is...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government</li> <li>b) A state where power is held by an elected representative</li> <li>c) A state where everyone has a say in how things are run</li> <li>d) The political belief that society should be organised fairly and equally</li> </ul>	<p><b>The more of these words you can use, the more precisely you can discuss Animal Farm in your essay – lots and lots of the AO3 marks are tied up in accurate use of terminology as it shows a strong understanding of the political situation Orwell was writing about.</b></p>



# Chapter One Recap

**Finish this phrase from chapter one. Man is the only animal that...**

- a) Consumes without producing
- b) Takes advantage of animals
- c) Sleeps under covers
- d) Profits from animals

**Which animals are the first to learn Beasts of England?**

- a) Boxer and Benjamin
- b) Mollie and Clover
- c) The pigs and dogs
- d) Moses and the cat

**Whatever goes on two legs is...**

- a) A human
- b) Inhuman
- c) An animal
- d) An enemy

**Which animal is most concerned with their appearance?**

- a) Squealer
- b) Mollie
- c) Clover
- d) Snowball

**All animals are...**

- a) Treated fairly
- b) Treated unfairly
- c) Equally
- d) Unequally

**Where did Old major's ideas come from?**

- a) A vision
- b) A dream
- c) Mr Jones
- d) The Communist Manifesto

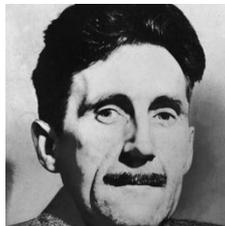
**Finish this phrase from chapter one. Man is the only animal that...**

- a) Sleeps under covers
- b) Takes advantage of animals
- c) Consumes without producing
- d) Profits from animals

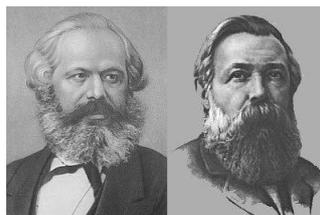
**A tyrant is...**

- a) A cruel and oppressive ruler
- b) A ruler with total power
- c) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government
- d) A perfect society

**Mind map everything you can remember about George Orwell  
(don't look up information unless you're desperate!)**



**Mind map everything you can remember about Russia and Communism  
(don't look up information unless you're desperate!)**



## What rhetorical tools does Old Major use? Why are they effective?

"[...] Why then do we continue in this miserable condition? Because nearly the whole of the produce of our labour is stolen from us by human beings. There, comrades, is the answer to all our problems. It is summed up in a single word--Man. Man is the only real enemy we have. Remove Man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished for ever.

"Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself. Our labour tills the soil, our dung fertilises it, and yet there is not one of us that owns more than his bare skin. You cows that I see before me, how many thousands of gallons of milk have you given during this last year? And what has happened to that milk which should have been breeding up sturdy calves? Every drop of it has gone down the throats of our enemies. And you hens, how many eggs have you laid in this last year, and how many of those eggs ever hatched into chickens? The rest have all gone to market to bring in money for Jones and his men. And you, Clover, where are those four foals you bore, who should have been the support and pleasure of your old age? Each was sold at a year old--you will never see one of them again. In return for your four confinements and all your labour in the fields, what have you ever had except your bare rations and a stall?

"And even the miserable lives we lead are not allowed to reach their natural span. For myself I do not grumble, for I am one of the lucky ones. I am twelve years old and have had over four hundred children. Such is the natural life of a pig. But no animal escapes the cruel knife in the end. You young porkers who are sitting in front of me, every one of you will scream your lives out at the block within a year. To that horror we all must come--cows, pigs, hens, sheep, everyone. Even the horses and the dogs have no better fate. You, Boxer, the very day that those great muscles of yours lose their power, Jones will sell you to the knacker, who will cut your throat and boil you down for the foxhounds. As for the dogs, when they grow old and toothless, Jones ties a brick round their necks and drowns them in the nearest pond.

"Is it not crystal clear, then, comrades, that all the evils of this life of ours spring from the tyranny of human beings? Only get rid of Man, and the produce of our labour would be our own. Almost overnight we could become rich and free. What then must we do? Why, work night and day, body and soul, for the overthrow of the human race! [...]"

### EXAM PRACTICE:

***How does Orwell use Old Major's to explore ideas about inequality and equality?***

*Write about:*

- *How Orwell presents Old Major.*
- *How Orwell uses Old Major to present ideas about power and control.*

**Useful vocab: allegory, symbol, utopia, democracy, socialism**

### How does the writer achieve it?

- Identify a technique/interesting use of language
- Use a quote

### Why is it effective?

- Link to the actual words used
- What does it make you feel/do?
- What are the connotations?
- Does it have an emotional impact?

### Context

- Can you link Old Major's ideas to the real world?
- Can you relate Old Major to Lenin?

**Lit AO1:** Use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

**Lit AO1:** Read, understand and respond to texts, maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.

**Lit AO2:** Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

**Lit AO3:** Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

## The Rhetoric of the Rebellion

**Annotate the 'Beasts of England' Section. What are the key lines? What do they reveal?**

*Beasts of England, beasts of Ireland,  
Beasts of every land and clime,  
Hearken to my joyful tidings  
Of the golden future time.*

*Soon or late the day is coming,  
Tyrant Man shall be o'erthrown,  
And the fruitful fields of England  
Shall be trod by beasts alone.*

*Rings shall vanish from our noses,  
And the harness from our back,  
Bit and spur shall rust forever,  
Cruel whips no more shall crack.*

*Riches more than mind can picture,  
Wheat and barley, oats and hay,  
Clover, beans, and mangel-wurzels  
Shall be ours upon that day.*

*Bright will shine the fields of England,  
Purer shall its waters be,  
Sweeter yet shall blow its breezes  
On the day that sets us free.*

*For that day we all must labour,  
Though we die before it break;  
Cows and horses, geese and turkeys,  
All must toil for freedom's sake.*

*Beasts of England, beasts of Ireland,  
Beasts of every land and clime,  
Hearken well and spread my tidings  
Of the golden future time.*

The singing of this song threw the animals into the wildest excitement. Almost before Major had reached the end, they had begun singing it for themselves. Even the stupidest of them had already picked up the tune and a few of the words, and as for the clever ones, such as the pigs and dogs, they had the entire song by heart within a few minutes.

*What is the key message of the song?*

*Why do you think the ideas of the revolution have been put into a song?*

# What is Symbolism?

## What is Old Major a symbol of?



>

>

>

Explore the methods used by Orwell to present Old Major as a symbol of the above things. Write these in an answer.

What hints does Orwell use to suggest that Major's utopia might never happen?

What Orwell does	Quote	Why he has done this and what it suggests

## Chapter Two: The Rebellion

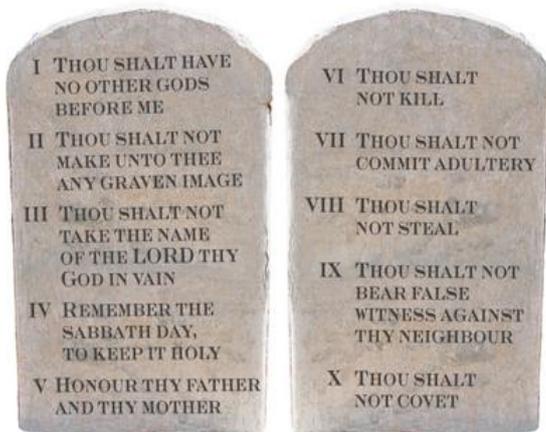
Following the death of \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ teach the other animals about his ideas. The animals have not been fed or milked, because \_\_\_\_\_ forgot, so the animals decide to \_\_\_\_\_ against him and \_\_\_\_\_ him off the farm. Two pigs, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ then begin to take charge, establishing \_\_\_\_\_ for a free and equal society. However, later on, the \_\_\_\_\_ vanishes while the animals are \_\_\_\_\_. They are unaware that it was actually taken by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Napoleon   Snowball   Mr Jones   Old Major   milk   pigs   working**

### Chapter Two key terms:

Quasi-religious  
Commandments  
Philosophy

Appropriation  
Illiterate  
Literate  
Expulsion



### The Ten Christian Commandments

The Ten Commandments, also known as the Decalogue, are a set of biblical principles relating to ethics and worship, which play a fundamental role in Judaism and Christianity. The commandments include instructions to worship only God, to honour one's parents, and to keep the sabbath, as well as prohibitions against idolatry, blasphemy, murder, adultery, theft, dishonesty, and coveting. Different religious groups follow different traditions for interpreting and numbering them.

### ***What is the purpose of the commandments in Animal Farm?***

#### ***How does Napoleon reward the rebellion?***

- a) Extra milk
- b) Extra apples
- c) Double rations
- d) Increased leisure time

#### ***How are the seven commandments described?***

- a) Inviolable
- b) Unalterable
- c) Unavoidable
- d) Unnecessary

#### ***An allegory is...***

- a) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one
- b) A short story, typically with animal characters, making a moral point
- c) A short sentence showing a wider truth or idea
- d) A perfect society

# The Animals' Vulnerability

What is it that makes the other animals so vulnerable? (AO2)

**Compare how the animals and the pigs act and behave in this chapter. Look for quotations which show the contrast... (AO1)**

What the pigs say/do...

What the animals say/do...

## EXAM PRACTICE:

*How do the pigs take advantage of the animals' vulnerability?*

Write about:

- *How the pigs take advantage.*
- *How the animals allow the pigs to take advantage.*

**How does the writer achieve it?**

- Identify a technique/interesting use of language
- Use a quote

**Why is it effective?**

- Link to the actual words used
- What does it make you feel/do?
- What are the connotations?
- Does it have an emotional impact?

**Context**

- Can you link this to ideas of capitalism, socialism and communism?

**Lit AO1:** Use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

**Lit AO1:** Read, understand and respond to texts, maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.  
**Lit AO2:** Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

**Lit AO3:** Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

**Starting with this extract, explore how Orwell constructs his characters in chapter two.**

**Make notes and gather evidence below...**

**Consider: what they do, what they say, their appearance**

<p><b>How does the writer achieve it?</b>          → Identify a technique/interesting use of language          → Use a quote</p>	<p><b>Why is it effective?</b>          → Link to the actual words used          → What does it make you feel/do?          → What are the connotations?          → Does it have an emotional impact?</p>	<p><b>Context</b>          → Can you link this to ideas of capitalism, socialism and communism?</p>
<p><b>Lit AO1:</b> Use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.</p>	<p><b>Lit AO1:</b> Read, understand and respond to texts, maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.  <b>Lit AO2:</b> Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.</p>	<p><b>Lit AO3:</b> Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.</p>

**Useful vocab: manipulation, symbol, intelligence, literate, illiterate**

Major's speech had given to the more intelligent animals on the farm a completely new outlook on life. They did not know when the Rebellion predicted by Major would take place, they had no reason for thinking that it would be within their own lifetime, but they saw clearly that it was their duty to prepare for it. The work of teaching and organising the others fell naturally upon the pigs, who were generally recognised as being the cleverest of the animals. Pre-eminent among the pigs were two young boars named Snowball and Napoleon, whom Mr. Jones was breeding up for sale. Napoleon was a large, rather fierce-looking Berkshire boar, the only Berkshire on the farm, not much of a talker, but with a reputation for getting his own way. Snowball was a more vivacious pig than Napoleon, quicker in speech and more inventive, but was not considered to have the same depth of character. All the other male pigs on the farm were porkers. The best known among them was a small fat pig named Squealer, with very round cheeks, twinkling eyes, nimble movements, and a shrill voice. He was a brilliant talker, and when he was arguing some difficult point he had a way of skipping from side to side and whisking his tail which was somehow very persuasive. The others said of Squealer that he could turn black into white.

<h1>Napoleon</h1>	<p><b>What is he a symbol of?</b></p>
<h1>Snowball</h1>	<p><b>What is he a symbol of?</b></p>
<h1>Squealer</h1>	<p><b>What is he a symbol of?</b></p>

# How does Orwell present power in the following quotes?

'... then the pigs...settled down in the straw immediately in front of the platform.'

'The work of teaching and organising the others fell naturally to the pigs, who were generally recognised as being the cleverest of all the animals.'

'Major's speech had given to the more intelligent animals on the farm a completely new outlook on life.'

**Finish this phrase from chapter one. Man is the only animal that...**

- e) Consumes without producing
- f) Takes advantage of animals
- g) Sleeps under covers
- h) Profits from animals

**Which animals are the first to learn Beasts of England?**

- e) Boxer and Benjamin
- f) Mollie and Clover
- g) The pigs and dogs
- h) Moses and the cat

**Which pig has round cheeks, twinkling eyes and a shrill voice?**

- a) Old Major
- b) Napoleon
- c) Snowball
- d) Squealer

**Old Major's ideas are turned into a system called...**

- a) Communism
- b) Socialism
- c) Animalism
- d) Republicanism

**What disappears at the end of chapter two?**

- a) Mr Jones
- b) Snowball
- c) 5 buckets of milk
- d) Windfall apples

**In which year was Animal Farm published?**

- a) 1918
- b) 1945
- c) 1984
- d) 1988

**Who is Old Major a symbol of?**

- a) Trotsky
- b) Stalin
- c) Lenin
- d) Karl Marx

**The animals on the farm represent...**

- a) The bourgeoisie
- b) The proletariat
- c) The Russian government
- d) The Allied forces

**Which animal has a "reputation for getting his own way"?**

- a) Old Major
- b) Napoleon
- c) Snowball
- d) Benjamin

**Whatever goes on two legs is...**

- e) A human
- f) Inhuman
- g) An animal
- h) An enemy

**All animals are...**

- e) Treated fairly
- f) Treated unfairly
- g) Equal
- h) Unequal

**The proletariat are...**

- a) The middle classes
- b) The working classes
- c) The ruling classes
- d) The upper classes

**To obfuscate is...**

- a) To disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things
- b) To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own
- c) To make something unclear or hard to understand
- d) To describe animals with human qualities

**A maxim is...**

- a) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one
- b) Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.
- c) The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly
- d) A short sentence showing a wider truth or idea

**Capitalism is...**

- a) A state where everyone has a say in how things are run
- b) A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience
- c) A political system where a country's trade and industry are owned by individuals, not the state
- d) A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government

## Chapter Three: The Pigs Take Charge

The \_\_\_\_\_ is completed in record time. The animals have worked very hard under the pigs' \_\_\_\_\_. Snowball then starts to take the animals away to teach them to \_\_\_\_\_, while \_\_\_\_\_ takes the \_\_\_\_\_ away to raise them himself. The apples and \_\_\_\_\_ have also disappeared, but \_\_\_\_\_ tells the animals that the pigs have taken them and that this is for everyone's \_\_\_\_\_.

read    milk    Napoleon    supervision    harvest    Squealer    puppies    benefit

### Chapter 3 key words:

**Liberation**

**Euphoria**

**Determination**

**Satirises**

**Exploitation**

**Binaries**

**Where did Old major's ideas come from?**

- e) A vision
- f) A dream
- g) Mr Jones
- h) The Communist Manifesto

**Finish this phrase from chapter one. Man is the only animal that...**

- e) Sleeps under covers
- f) Takes advantage of animals
- g) Consumes without producing
- h) Profits from animals

**Which animal is most concerned with their appearance?**

- e) Squealer
- f) Mollie
- g) Clover
- h) Snowball

**Which pig has round cheeks, twinkling eyes and a shrill voice?**

- a) Old Major
- b) Squealer
- c) Napoleon
- d) Snowball

**Old Major's ideas are turned into a system called...**

- a) Communism
- b) Socialism
- c) Animalism
- d) Republicanism

**What disappears at the end of chapter two?**

- a) Mr Jones
- b) Snowball
- c) 5 buckets of milk
- d) Windfall apples

**In which year was Animal Farm published?**

- a) 1918
- b) 1945
- c) 1984
- d) 1988

**Satire is...**

- a) Using symbols to represent bigger ideas.
- b) To force someone to accept views that are not their own
- c) Using humour and ridicule to criticise people's stupidity and faults
- d) A state where power is held by an elected representative

**In chapter three, while the others work, the pigs...**

- a) Do nothing
- b) Direct and supervise
- c) Their fair share
- d) A little bit of work

**Who is described as "worthless" and "parasitical"?**

- a) Mr Jones
- b) The hens
- c) Human beings
- d) The pigs

**Who is "the admiration of everybody"?**

- a) Napoleon
- b) Old Major
- c) Boxer
- d) Benjamin

**What is painted on the green flag of Animal Farm?**

- a) Three pigs
- b) Green fields
- c) A horn and hoof
- d) A gate and gun

**The Seven Commandments are reduced to...**

- a) Four legs good, two legs bad
- b) Two legs good, four legs bad
- c) Whatever goes on two legs is an enemy
- d) Whatever goes on two legs is a friend

**Why does Squealer say the pigs need milk and apples?**

- a) They grow quickly
- b) They are vital nutrients
- c) They are brain workers
- d) They deserve better treatment

## Chapter Four: The Battle of the Cowshed

The news that there has been a \_\_\_\_\_ at Animal Farm spreads. The animals begin promoting the \_\_\_\_\_ ideas of Animal Farm across the countryside. Soon, the neighbouring farmers, Mr \_\_\_\_\_ and Mr \_\_\_\_\_ become \_\_\_\_\_ that their own animals will also revolt and they begin to take steps to prevent an \_\_\_\_\_

**uprising    Frederick    revolutionary    Pilkington    rebellion    frightened**

### Chapter Four Revision Questions

**How do Pilkington and Frederick feel about the rebellion on Animal Farm?**

- a) Proud and inspired, desperate for it to spread across England
- b) Worried that it will affect the profits for their own farms
- c) Frightened and anxious to prevent their own animals hearing about it
- d) They are happy to ignore it as long as it doesn't affect them

**What do they tell people about what is happening on Animal Farm?**

- a) Rumours of cannibalism, starvation and torture
- b) That it's the future of farming in England
- c) That the pigs are taking charge of the farm
- d) That the rebellion will soon be over

**Where did Snowball learn his military tactics?**

- a) A book of Julius Caesar's campaigns
- b) TV coverage of World War II
- c) Napoleon gave him military advice
- d) Wisdom passed on from Jones

**Which animal is shot as they charge at Jones?**

- a) Boxer
- b) Benjamin
- c) Squealer
- d) Snowball

**Which animal believes he has killed a human and is upset by it?**

- a) Benjamin
- b) Boxer
- c) Mollie
- d) Clover

**Which award is given to Boxer and Snowball?**

- a) Animal Hero, First Class
- b) Animal Hero, Second Class
- c) Farm Hero, Usurper of Jones
- d) Defender of the Realm

**What name is given to the fight between humans and animals?**

- a) Battle of the Cowshed
- b) Fight for the Cowshed
- c) Defence of the Cowshed
- d) Defeat of the Humans

### Chapter 1,2,3 Revision Questions

**Whatever goes on two legs is...**

- a) A human
- b) An animal
- c) An enemy
- d) Inhuman

**Finish this phrase from chapter one. Man is the only animal that...**

- a) Consumes without producing
- b) Profits from animals
- c) Sleeps under covers
- d) Takes advantage of animals

**How are the seven commandments described?**

- a) Unalterable
- b) Inviolable
- c) Unavoidable
- d) Unnecessary

**Old Major's ideas are turned into a system called...**

- a) Communism
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- d) Animalism

**Who is described as "worthless" and "parasitical"?**

- a) Mr Jones
- b) The pigs
- c) The hens
- d) Human beings

**Who is "the admiration of everybody"?**

- a) Napoleon
- b) Old Major
- c) Boxer
- d) Benjamin

**The Seven Commandments are reduced to...**

- a) Four legs good, two legs bad
- b) Whatever goes on two legs is an enemy
- c) Whatever goes on two legs is a friend
- d) Two legs good, four legs bad

## AO3 Context: Stalin



Joseph Stalin was born 1879. His father was a shoemaker with a penchant for drunkenness, who left when Stalin was. Joseph's mother, Yekaterina, made a bigger impact on his life-it was she who directed his education thanks to a scholarship where, she hoped, he would train to become a priest. Instead, the young Stalin became a devoted advocate for Marxist revolution.

He joined the Social Democrats, Russia's Marxist political party, and became a professional revolutionary. He organised worker protests, which led to his arrest in 1902. Exiled to Siberia, he would soon escape, setting a pattern for the next ten years: from 1902 to 1913 he would be arrested and exiled six times, escaping almost every time. Stalin was not his real name – he chose it for himself: it means “steel one”.

In 1917, the Russian Revolution toppled the Tsarist government. From March until November of that year, Russia was ruled by a Provisional Government, which made plans for a democratically elected assembly. A number of miscalculations, however, along with the strain of continuing the war with Germany, paved the way for a Bolshevik *coup* in November of 1917. The new government, led by Lenin, made peace with the Germans and undertook a bloody, three-year civil war, in which Stalin commanded on several fronts. The real hero of the conflict, however, was Leon Trotsky, who organized the Red Army and guided the Bolsheviks to victory.

After the war, the Bolsheviks renamed themselves the Communist Party, and declared Russia the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Stalin was elected General Secretary of the Party in 1922, and although he quickly began to increase his personal power, no one realized how dangerous he was at this time. As he neared death in 1924, Lenin began to grow wary of his former protégé, and wrote a speech warning against Stalin's influence. But Lenin's circle of advisers ignored the him and allowed Stalin to remain in a position of power. At this point, Stalin began his rise to dominance by destroying his rival Trotsky, expelling him from the party in 1927 and exiling him from the Soviet Union in 1929. By 1930, he stood alone atop the Party and the Soviet Union.

Once in power, Stalin began a drive to industrialize and modernize the Soviet Union, with a Five-Year Plan (1927-32) based on Marxist principles championing government control of the economy. Central to his program was the collectivisation of agriculture, in which the government would redistribute the land by taking over the estates of the wealthiest peasants. But collectivisation was a disaster - the government persecuted and killed the peasantry, famine swept the country, and as many as ten million may have died.

**Read the first two paragraphs. List four things you learn about Stalin.**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

## Chapter Five: Snowball flees for his life

\_\_\_\_\_ vanishes and it is rumoured that she has been seen with Mr \_\_\_\_\_, happy in \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ between Napoleon and Snowball increases as their disagreements become more serious. This is partly because Snowball suggests that the animals should build a \_\_\_\_\_, and this brings the farm's \_\_\_\_\_ out into the open. Napoleon then makes his dogs \_\_\_\_\_ Snowball, who is forced to \_\_\_\_\_ for his life. Napoleon then \_\_\_\_\_ power and his first action is to \_\_\_\_\_ the Sunday debates. Squealer tells the animals that the windmill will be built and that it was \_\_\_\_\_'s idea all along.

flee

Pilkington

conflict

abolish

divisions

windmill

Napoleon

seizes

attack

**Which animal voluntarily leaves the farm?**

- Mollie
- Boxer
- Squealer
- Benjamin

**Whose help does Napoleon gain to interrupt Snowball's speeches?**

- The sheep
- The dogs
- Benjamin
- Moses

**How does Napoleon express his contempt for Snowball's windmill plans?**

- By spitting on them
- By giving a scathing speech
- By urinating on them
- By writing Snowball a letter

**Who do the animals agree with?**

- Napoleon
- Snowball
- Neither of them
- Whoever is speaking

**How does Napoleon get rid of Snowball?**

- Defeats him in a wonderful speech
- Has a pack of dogs chase him away
- Sends him to a neighbouring farm
- Forces the animals to turn on him

**What are Boxer's maxims?**

- "Snowball is always right" & "The glory of the farm"
- "I will work harder" & "The glory of the farm"
- "I will work harder" & "Napoleon is always right"
- "Snowball is always right" & "I will work harder"

**Squealer says Napoleon only pretended to dislike the windmill. Why?**

- As part of a plan to get rid of Snowball
- He didn't want to take all the credit himself
- He didn't want to upset Snowball
- He felt guilty that the animals would have to work so hard

**Propaganda is...**

- Special words used by a group or profession which are difficult for others to understand
- Information which is often misleading or biased
- A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one
- Using humour and ridicule to criticise people's stupidity and faults

**Totalitarian describes...**

- A state where everyone has a say in how things are run
- A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience
- A cruel and oppressive ruler
- Information which is often misleading or biased

**To indoctrinate is to...**

- Use special words which are difficult for others to understand
- Provide information which is often misleading or biased
- Tell a story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one
- Teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own

**Marxism/socialism is...**

- The political belief that society should be organised equally and fairly
- A kind of government which dictates to its people and expects obedience
- A nightmare society, often ruled by a corrupt government
- Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite

**To obfuscate is...**

- Making something unclear or hard to understand
- To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own
- To disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things
- Describing animals with human qualities

**Anthropomorphism is...**

- Describing animals with human qualities
- Expressing your meaning by using language which shows the opposite
- Information which is often misleading or biased, used to promote a political cause or POV
- A fictitious name, often used by a writer

# Trotsky & Stalin

After the death of Lenin in 1924, a struggle for power followed between Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky.

Trotsky was a brilliant speaker who believed that the Soviet Union should remain in a constant state of revolution, always evolving and changing. Stalin felt the Soviet Union would be wiser to build up its defences and armed forces. The two simply could not agree, and Stalin worked hard to undermine Trotsky wherever he could – eventually he was forced to



leave the Soviet Union and was then permanently exiled and told he could never return.



Stalin continued to blame Trotsky for any problems the country suffered, often claiming that he was working with the Soviet Union's enemies to overthrow the government.

## Which character in Animal Farm do you think represents Trotsky?

Name:

Evidence & Quotations:

## Which character in Animal Farm do you think represents Stalin?

Name:

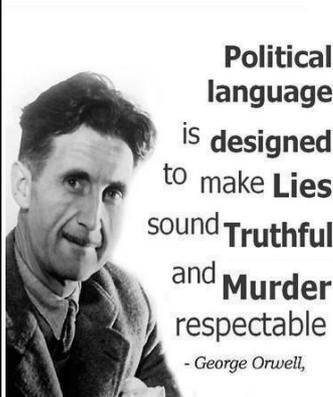
Evidence & Quotations:

# How do Napoleon and Snowball's approach to education differ?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Snowball tries to teach other animals to read.</li><li>• His efforts are doomed to fail; the animals are not keen to extend their thinking (Benjamin, for example).</li><li>• Some animals are keen to learn but too stupid or incapable of seeing the pigs' bigger picture.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Napoleon concentrates on smaller groups, indoctrinating them with his views only.</li><li>• Napoleon uses his learning to make life more enjoyable; he learns to brew beer.</li><li>• He and Squealer's facility for language and learning helps them exploit and manipulate others for their benefit.</li></ul> |
|--|--|

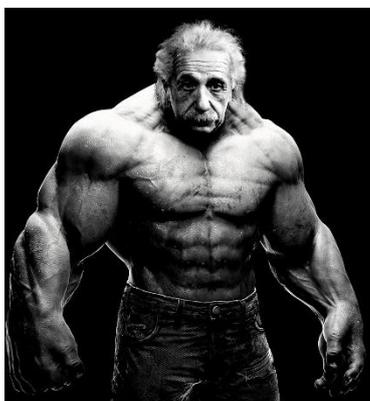
If the animals had been keen to learn (or able to learn), how would the course of the revolution have changed?

What do you think Orwell is trying to say about the role of education in society?



# Language and Power

Rank these animals according to intelligence...	Rank these animals according to their power...
Napoleon	Napoleon
Boxer	Boxer
Benjamin	Benjamin
Snowball	Snowball
The sheep	The sheep
Mollie	Mollie
The hens	The hens
Clover	Clover
Squealer	Squealer
Major	Major
The dogs	The dogs



## KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

**How do Napoleon, Squealer and Snowball gain their power?  
Find quotations to support these ideas...**

They support the revolution by spreading it to the other animals: they can remember and disseminate it.

They can record their ideas in writing, simplifying it so the less intelligent animals understand it.

Snowball reads books and uses this knowledge to the animals' advantage.

The pigs learn from books about how to improve the farm.

## AO2 Language Analysis: Propaganda

Write your own definition of propaganda in the space below...

Can you think of three examples of propaganda in *Animal Farm*? Can you give a quotation to back up your point?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### Extract One

"Comrades," he said, "I trust that every animal here appreciates the sacrifice that Comrade Napoleon has made in taking this extra labour upon himself. Do not imagine, comrades, that leadership is a pleasure! On the contrary, it is a deep and heavy responsibility. No one believes more firmly than Comrade Napoleon that all animals are equal. He would be only too happy to let you make your decisions for yourselves. But sometimes you might make the wrong decisions, comrades, and then where should we be? Suppose you had decided to follow Snowball, with his moonshine of Windmills–Snowball, who, as we now know, was no better than a criminal?"

"He fought bravely at the Battle of the Cowshed," said somebody.

"Bravery is not enough," said Squealer. "Loyalty and obedience are more important. And as to the Battle of the Cowshed, I believe the time will come when we shall find that Snowball's part in it was much exaggerated. Discipline, comrades, iron discipline! That is the watchword for today. One false step, and our enemies would be upon us. Surely, comrades, you do not want Jones back?"

Once again this argument was unanswerable. Certainly the animals did not want Jones back; if the holding of debates on Sunday mornings was liable to bring him back, then the debates must stop. Boxer, who had now had time to think things over, voiced the general feeling by saying: "If Comrade Napoleon says it, it must be right." And from then on he adopted the maxim, "Napoleon is always right," in addition to his private motto of "I will work harder."

**George Orwell once said: "totalitarianism has abolished freedom of thought to an extent unheard of in any previous age". How does this statement link to extract two, above?**

### Extract Two

That evening Squealer explained privately to the other animals that Napoleon had never in reality been opposed to the windmill. On the contrary, it was he who had advocated it in the beginning, and the plan which Snowball had drawn on the floor of the incubator shed had actually been stolen from among Napoleon's papers. The windmill was, in fact, Napoleon's own creation. Why, then, asked somebody, had he spoken so strongly against it? Here Squealer looked very sly. That, he said, was Comrade Napoleon's cunning. He had seemed to oppose the windmill, simply as a manoeuvre to get rid of Snowball, who was a dangerous character and a bad influence. Now that Snowball was out of the way, the plan could go forward without his interference. This, said Squealer, was something called tactics. He repeated a number of times, "Tactics, comrades, tactics!" skipping round and whisking his tail with a merry laugh. The animals were not certain what the word meant, but Squealer spoke so persuasively, and the three dogs who happened to be with him growled so threateningly, that they accepted his explanation without further questions.

**George Orwell once wrote of a "nightmare world in which the leader, or some other ruling clique controls not only the future, but the past. If the leader says of such and such an event 'it never happened' – well, it never happened. If he says two and two are five – well, two and two are five. This prospect frightens me more than bombs."**

**How does this statement link to extract two, above?**

# Language



The pigs- and in particular- Squealer- manipulate language to control the farm.

For each of the examples of language manipulation below, find a definition and examples of where this is done in the novel.

Techniques used	Definition	Examples from novel
Rhetorical Qs		
Statistics		
Subversion		
Simplification		
Obfuscation		
Distortion		

The winter was as cold as the last one had been, and food was even shorter. Once again all rations were reduced, except those of the pigs and the dogs. A too rigid equality in rations, Squealer explained, would have been contrary to the principles of Animalism. In any case he had no difficulty in proving to the other animals that they were not in reality short of food, whatever the appearances might be. For the time being, certainly, it had been found necessary to make a readjustment of rations (Squealer always spoke of it as a "readjustment," never as a "reduction"), but in comparison with the days of Jones, the improvement was enormous. Reading out the figures in a shrill, rapid voice, he proved to them in detail that they had more oats, more hay, more turnips than they had had in Jones's day, that they worked shorter hours, that their drinking water was of better quality, that they lived longer, that a larger proportion of their young ones survived infancy, and that they had more straw in their stalls and suffered less from fleas. The animals believed every word of it. Truth to tell, Jones and all he stood for had almost faded out of their memories. They knew that life nowadays was harsh and bare, that they were often hungry and often cold, and that they were usually working when they were not asleep. But doubtless it had been worse in the old days. They were glad to believe so. Besides, in those days they had been slaves and now they were free, and that made all the difference, as Squealer did not fail to point out.

**Exam question: How does Orwell explore the use of language to gain power and manipulate?**

## Chapter Six: Labour and Hunger

The animals continue their hard \_\_\_\_\_, working a \_\_\_\_\_-hour week and even \_\_\_\_\_ afternoons, but the \_\_\_\_\_ building comes into difficulties. Not only this, but the \_\_\_\_\_ is also poorer than the previous year. As a result, Napoleon decides to \_\_\_\_\_ with the neighbouring farmers.

The \_\_\_\_\_ then move into the \_\_\_\_\_, breaking the fourth commandment by \_\_\_\_\_. This is explained away by \_\_\_\_\_, who says that it is necessary for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the farm. An \_\_\_\_\_ to this commandment is then painted on the wall.

Unfortunately, a \_\_\_\_\_ destroys the \_\_\_\_\_ and Napoleon uses this opportunity to say that it was in fact Snowball who \_\_\_\_\_ their work. A death sentence is passed upon him and life continues to be difficult for the animals as they struggle to rebuild the windmill.

**storm   windmill   sabotaged   labour   sleeping in beds   sixty  
windmill   defences   amendment   Sunday   pigs   farmhouse**

**What will happen if the animals don't complete the "strictly voluntary" work?**

- a) Nothing at all
- b) They will be punished
- c) Their rations will be halved
- d) They will be rewarded

**Why does Napoleon announce the animals will begin to trade with other farms?**

- a) To obtain things they can't get elsewhere
- b) To maximise the farm's profits
- c) So they don't know Jones is gone
- d) So the animals can retire quickly

**Why are four young pigs silenced by the dogs and sheep?**

- a) They criticise the plans for the windmill
- b) They believe the windmill is a waste of time
- c) They speak up about money being banned
- d) They want to be paid for their labour

**What is the name of the solicitor Napoleon employs?**

- a) Whymper
- b) Pinchfield
- c) Frederick
- d) Pilkington

**On whom does Napoleon blame the collapse of the windmill?**

- a) Whymper
- b) Jones
- c) Squealer
- d) Snowball

**Which Russian leader does Napoleon most resemble?**

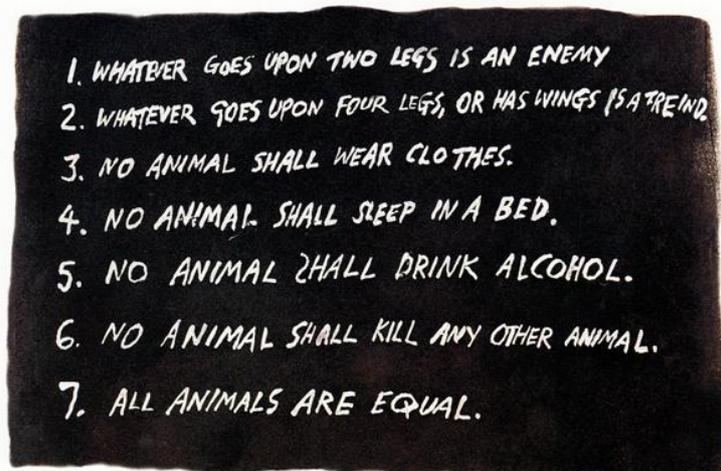
- a. Stalin
- b. Trotsky
- c. Tsar Nicholas
- d. Khrushchev

**Book Work: Who does Napoleon blame for the failure of the windmill and why?**

"Comrades," he said quietly, "do you know who is responsible for this? Do you know the enemy who has come in the night and overthrown our windmill? SNOWBALL!" he suddenly roared in a voice of thunder, "Snowball has done this thing!"

# How have the Seven Commandments changed?

Annotate the changes to the commandments – use quotes to prove your points



## To obfuscate is...

- a) Making something unclear or hard to understand
- b) To teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own
- c) To disrupt or destroy an established way of doing things
- d) Describing animals with human qualities

## Propaganda is...

- a) Special words used by a group or profession which are difficult for others to understand
- b) Information which is often misleading or biased
- c) A story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one
- d) Using humour and ridicule to criticise people's stupidity and faults

## To indoctrinate is to...

- a) Use special words which are difficult for others to understand
- b) Provide information which is often misleading or biased
- c) Tell a story with a hidden meaning – usually a moral or political one
- d) Teach/force someone to accept views that are not their own

## Squealer represents...

- a) Stalin
- b) Lenin
- c) Trotsky
- d) Pravda

## How does Squealer use language to manipulate the animals here?

"You have heard then, comrades," he said, "that we pig now sleep in the beds of the farmhouse? And why not? You did not suppose, surely, that there was ever a ruling against beds? A bed merely means a place to sleep in. A pile of straw in a stall is a bed, properly regarded. The rule was against sheets, which are a human invention. We have removed the sheets from the farmhouse beds, and sleep between blankets. And very comfortable beds they are too! But not more comfortable than we need, I can tell you, comrades, with all the brainwork we have to do nowadays. You would not rob us of our repose, would you, comrades? You would not have us too tired to carry out our duties? Surely none of you wishes to see Jones back?"

The animals reassured him on this point immediately, and no more was said about the pigs sleeping in the farmhouse beds. And when, some days afterwards, it was announced that from now on the pigs would get up an hour later in the mornings than the other animals, no complaint was made about that either.

## Chapter Seven: Napoleon's Reign of Terror

The animals begin to face \_\_\_\_\_ and although the windmill is \_\_\_\_\_ with even thicker walls, the work is slow. Napoleon takes Mr \_\_\_\_\_, his \_\_\_\_\_, around the farm and \_\_\_\_\_ him into thinking that the rumours of famine are untrue. The hens, who have become angry that their eggs are being sold to him, begin to \_\_\_\_\_. Napoleon decides to sell some \_\_\_\_\_ and conducts separate \_\_\_\_\_ with Mr \_\_\_\_\_ and Mr \_\_\_\_\_. Four pigs and \_\_\_\_\_ hens, among others, are \_\_\_\_\_ in front of other \_\_\_\_\_ animals.

**terrified   tricks   executed   rebuilt   Whymper   Frederick   three  
solicitor   rebel   starvation   Pilkington**

**What seemed to stare the animals in the face during winter?**

- a) Financial ruin
- b) Starvation
- c) A takeover
- d) Prosperity

**How are the hens punished for refusing to give their eggs over?**

- a) They are executed one by one
- b) Their rations are stopped
- c) Their eggs are taken by force
- d) They are removed from the farm

**What is 'discovered' in the spring?**

- a) Mollie has returned as she misses Animal Farm
- b) Snowball has been causing mischief on the farm
- c) Napoleon's dogs are plotting a takeover
- d) Whymper has plans to take over Animal Farm

**When Napoleon says Snowball is in league with Jones, who defends Snowball?**

- a) Clover
- b) Muriel
- c) Benjamin
- d) Boxer

**After the 'purge', which of the Seven Commandments have been broken? Highlight the correct answers.**

- 1) Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy
- 2) Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend
- 3) No animals shall wear clothes
- 4) No animal shall sleep in a bed
- 5) No animal shall drink alcohol
- 6) No animal shall kill any other animal
- 7) All animals are equal

**What is abolished at the end of Chapter Seven?**

- a) Beasts of England
- b) The Seven Commandments
- c) The name 'Animal Farm'
- d) The name 'Manor Farm'

## Napoleon and Squealer's Version

"Snowball was in league with Jones from the very start! He was Jones's secret agent all the time. It has all been proved by documents which he left behind him and which we have only just discovered. To my mind this explains a great deal, comrades. Did we not see for ourselves how he attempted—fortunately without success—to get us defeated and destroyed at the Battle of the Cowshed?"

The animals were stupefied. This was a wickedness far outdoing Snowball's destruction of the windmill. But it was some minutes before they could fully take it in. They all remembered, or thought they remembered, how they had seen Snowball charging ahead of them at the Battle of the Cowshed, how he had rallied and encouraged them at every turn, and how he had not paused for an instant even when the pellets from Jones's gun had wounded his back. At first it was a little difficult to see how this fitted in with his being on Jones's side. Even Boxer, who seldom asked questions, was puzzled. He lay down, tucked his fore hoofs beneath him, shut his eyes, and with a hard effort managed to formulate his thoughts.

"I do not believe that," he said. "Snowball fought bravely at the Battle of the Cowshed. I saw him myself. Did we not give him 'Animal Hero, first Class,' immediately afterwards?"

"That was our mistake, comrade. For we know now—it is all written down in the secret documents that we have found—that in reality he was trying to lure us to our doom."

"But he was wounded," said Boxer. "We all saw him running with blood."

"That was part of the arrangement!" cried Squealer. "Jones's shot only grazed him. I could show you this in his own writing, if you were able to read it. The plot was for Snowball, at the critical moment, to give the signal for flight and leave the field to the enemy. And he very nearly Succeeded—I will even say, comrades, he would have succeeded if it had not been for our heroic Leader, Comrade Napoleon. Do you not remember how, just at the moment when Jones and his men had got inside the yard, Snowball suddenly turned and fled, and many animals followed him? And do you not remember, too, that it was just at that moment, when panic was spreading and all seemed lost, that Comrade Napoleon sprang forward with a cry of 'Death to Humanity!' and sank his teeth in Jones's leg? Surely you remember that, comrades?" exclaimed Squealer, frisking from side to side.

Now when Squealer described the scene so graphically, it seemed to the animals that they did remember it. At any rate, they remembered that at the critical moment of the battle Snowball had turned to flee. But Boxer was still a little uneasy.

"I do not believe that Snowball was a traitor at the beginning," he said finally. "What he has done since is different. But I believe that at the Battle of the Cowshed he was a good comrade."

"Our Leader, Comrade Napoleon," announced Squealer, speaking very slowly and firmly, "has stated categorically—categorically, comrade—that Snowball was Jones's agent from the very beginning—yes, and from long before the Rebellion was ever thought of."

"Ah, that is different!" said Boxer. "If Comrade Napoleon says it, it must be right."

## The Battle of the Cowshed

As the human beings approached the farm buildings, Snowball launched his first attack. All the pigeons, to the number of thirty-five, flew to and fro over the men's heads and muted upon them from mid-air; and while the men were dealing with this, the geese, who had been hiding behind the hedge, rushed out and pecked viciously at the calves of their legs. However, this was only a light skirmishing manoeuvre, intended to create a little disorder, and the men easily drove the geese off with their sticks. Snowball now launched his second line of attack. Muriel, Benjamin, and all the sheep, with Snowball at the head of them, rushed forward and prodded and butted the men from every side, while Benjamin turned around and lashed at them with his small hoofs. But once again the men, with their sticks and their hobnailed boots, were too strong for them; and suddenly, at a squeal from Snowball, which was the signal for retreat, all the animals turned and fled through the gateway into the yard.

The men gave a shout of triumph. They saw, as they imagined, their enemies in flight, and they rushed after them in disorder. This was just what Snowball had intended. As soon as they were well inside the yard, the three horses, the three cows, and the rest of the pigs, who had been lying in ambush in the cowshed, suddenly emerged in their rear, cutting them off. Snowball now gave the signal for the charge. He himself dashed straight for Jones. Jones saw him coming, raised his gun and fired. The pellets scored bloody streaks along Snowball's back, and a sheep dropped dead. Without halting for an instant, Snowball flung his fifteen stone against Jones's legs. Jones was hurled into a pile of dung and his gun flew out of his hands. But the most terrifying spectacle of all was Boxer, rearing up on his hind legs and striking out with his great iron-shod hoofs like a stallion. His very first blow took a stable-lad from Foxwood on the skull and stretched him lifeless in the mud. At the sight, several men dropped their sticks and tried to run. Panic overtook them, and the next moment all the animals together were chasing them round and round the yard. They were gored, kicked, bitten, trampled on. There was not an animal on the farm that did not take vengeance on them after his own fashion. Even the cat suddenly leapt off a roof onto a cowman's shoulders and sank her claws in his neck, at which he yelled horribly. At a moment when the opening was clear, the men were glad enough to rush out of the yard and make a bolt for the main road. And so within five minutes of their invasion they were in ignominious retreat by the same way as they had come, with a flock of geese hissing after them and pecking at their calves all the way.

All the men were gone except one. Back in the yard Boxer was pawing with his hoof at the stable-lad who lay face down in the mud, trying to turn him over. The boy did not stir.

"He is dead," said Boxer sorrowfully. "I had no intention of doing that. I forgot that I was wearing iron shoes. Who will believe that I did not do this on purpose?"

"No sentimentality, comrade!" cried Snowball from whose wounds the blood was still dripping. "War is war. The only good human being is a dead one."

**How does Squealer's account of the battle differ and why?**

## Exam Question

The confessions in *Animal Farm*, like those in the Soviet show trials, are significant for a number of reasons, including the following:

- They indicate that the farm has now fallen under a complete dictatorship in which any legitimate justice is no longer possible, at least for anyone who might be perceived as a possible threat to the new regime.
- They indicate that not only are actions now punishable, but so are thoughts.
- They serve to intimidate anyone who might even think of opposing the regime, especially since the confessions are usually followed by vicious and bloody executions.

**The brutality of the trials can be seen in this horrific passage, below...**

*The three hens who had been the ringleaders in the attempted rebellion over the eggs now came forward and stated that Snowball had appeared to them in a dream and incited them to disobey Napoleon's orders. They, too, were slaughtered. Then a goose came forward and confessed to having secreted six ears of corn during the last year's harvest and eaten them in the night. Then a sheep confessed to having urinated in the drinking pool – urged to do this, so she said, by Snowball -- and two other sheep confessed to having murdered an old ram, an especially devoted follower of Napoleon, by chasing him round and round a bonfire when he was suffering from a cough. They were all slain on the spot. And so the tale of confessions and executions went on, until there was a pile of corpses lying before Napoleon's feet and the air was heavy with the smell of blood . . . .*

**Why are the murders of the animals so horrific?**

**You can use evidence from the extract above, but must also use at least two more examples from elsewhere in the novel.**

**Make notes and gather evidence below...**

**How does the writer achieve it?**

- Identify a technique/interesting use of language
- Use a quote

**Why is it effective?**

- Link to the actual words used
- What does it make you feel/do?
- What are the connotations?
- Does it have an emotional impact?

**Context**

- How does this link to Stalin?
- Can you refer to the purges?

**Lit AO1:** Use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

**Lit AO1:** Read, understand and respond to texts, maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.  
**Lit AO2:** Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

**Lit AO3:** Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

**Useful vocab: dictatorship, tyranny, indoctrinate, guilt**

## Chapter Eight: The Battle of the Windmill

It becomes very clear that the Seven Commandments are being \_\_\_\_\_ and now the animals are working even harder and \_\_\_\_\_ even less than under Mr Jones. The \_\_\_\_\_ is finished. Napoleon finally sells the timber to \_\_\_\_\_, who pays him with \_\_\_\_\_ notes. Napoleon is furious when he realises he has been tricked and passes a \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ on the farmer. \_\_\_\_\_ then invades the farm and \_\_\_\_\_ the windmill, resulting in a battle which the animals \_\_\_\_\_, but only just. The pigs find a crate of \_\_\_\_\_.

win   whiskey   Mr Frederick   death sentence   altered   destroys  
windmill   eating   Mr Frederick   forged

### Irony and the narrator

**To how is Napoleon now referred?**

- a) Our Leader, Comrade Napoleon
- b) Lord Commander Napoleon
- c) Our Leader, Supreme Napoleon
- d) Our Father, Lord Napoleon

**Which pig writes a poem about Napoleon?**

- a) Squealer
- b) Snowball
- c) Minimus
- d) Napoleon himself

**Who does Napoleon agree to sell the timber to?**

- a) Pilkington
- b) Frederick
- c) Whymper
- d) Jones

**After the forgery, what sentence does Napoleon announce for the forger?**

- a) Hanged until dead
- b) Boiled alive
- c) Firing squad
- d) Trampled by horses

**After the Battle of the Windmill celebrations, what is wrong with Napoleon?**

- a) He's upset that the windmill is destroyed
- b) He's severely wounded by a bullet
- c) He's suffering a terrible hangover
- d) His food has been poisoned

**Who does Frederick represent?**

- a) The Allies
- b) Hitler
- c) Stalin
- d) Engels

Meanwhile, World War II was fast approaching. As Hitler rose to power in Germany, Stalin first contemplated forming a defensive alliance with Britain and France against the Nazis. But he wanted to avoid war at all costs, and in 1939 he signed the Non-Aggression Pact, which pledged that the two dictatorships would not attack one another. But in June of 1941 Germany invaded the Soviet Union in blatant defiance of their pact. At first, the Red Army suffered catastrophic defeats, but they rallied, and after crushing the Nazis at Stalingrad in 1942-43, they were on their way to winning the war.

**How does this relate to the chapter you have just read?**



## Chapter Nine: Boxer's Fate

Once again, the animals are faced with \_\_\_\_\_ the windmill. 31 pigs are born, and Napoleon orders for a \_\_\_\_\_ to be built for their \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ are yet again reduced. Animal Farm is proclaimed a \_\_\_\_\_ with Napoleon as president. Boxer is \_\_\_\_\_ working and Napoleon sends for a vet. A van arrives, Boxer is taken away but \_\_\_\_\_ reads its side and learns that Boxer is being \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ manages to convince the animals otherwise. Boxer is never seen again.

**education    slaughtered    injured    Squealer    Benjamin    republic**  
**schoolhouse    rebuilding    rations**

**What does Squealer call the lower rations?**

- a) A reduction
- b) A readjustment
- c) A reorganising
- d) A review

**In April, Animal Farm is declared...**

- a) A communist state
- b) A democracy
- c) A republic
- d) A totalitarian regime

**What is to be built in the farmhouse garden?**

- a) A conservatory
- b) A schoolhouse
- c) A distillery
- d) An office for Napoleon

**How does Squealer claim Boxer died?**

- a) He was boiled down for glue
- b) He was fed to the dogs
- c) He died peacefully in hospital
- d) He passed away on the journey

**Which of the original Seven Commandments are broken in this chapter. Give examples...**

Whatever goes upon two  
legs is an enemy

*Whatever goes upon four  
legs, or has wings, is a friend*

No animals shall wear  
clothes

*No animal shall sleep in a  
bed*

No animal shall drink alcohol

*No animal shall kill any other  
animal*

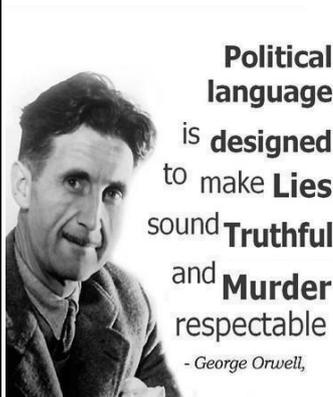
All animals are equal

# How do Napoleon and Snowball's approach to education differ?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Snowball tries to teach other animals to read.</li><li>• His efforts are doomed to fail; the animals are not keen to extend their thinking (Benjamin, for example).</li><li>• Some animals are keen to learn but too stupid or incapable of seeing the pigs' bigger picture.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Napoleon concentrates on smaller groups, indoctrinating them with his views only.</li><li>• Napoleon uses his learning to make life more enjoyable; he learns to brew beer.</li><li>• He and Squealer's facility for language and learning helps them exploit and manipulate others for their benefit.</li></ul> |
|--|--|

If the animals had been keen to learn (or able to learn), how would the course of the revolution have changed?

What do you think Orwell is trying to say about the role of education in society?



## Chapter Ten: The Dream Betrayed

Many years have passed. Few of the old animals still \_\_\_\_\_; the \_\_\_\_\_ ones don't understand \_\_\_\_\_. The windmill has been \_\_\_\_\_ and another one is being built. Although the farm is \_\_\_\_\_, the animals work harder than ever. \_\_\_\_\_ has complete control over the other animals. \_\_\_\_\_ is horrified to see pigs \_\_\_\_\_ on their hind legs. Other pigs then emerge from the farmhouse- including Napoleon, who is seen carrying a \_\_\_\_\_. The Commandments have been \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ wall and have been replaced with a single slogan: (\_\_\_\_\_).

The pigs now wear \_\_\_\_\_, smoke and read \_\_\_\_\_. The pigs invite the \_\_\_\_\_ to dinner. The animals are \_\_\_\_\_ that they no longer can \_\_\_\_\_ between humans and \_\_\_\_\_. It is evident that the final \_\_\_\_\_ is complete.

(find the key quote) survive erased walk younger richer  
distinguish pigs farmers transformation built Napoleon Clover

**Why does Squealer take the sheep away from the farm?**

- a) To teach them a new maxim
- b) To punish them for stealing
- c) To train them to attack animals
- d) To teach them to read

**What do the animals find most shocking about Squealer's appearance?**

- a) He can barely see through his eyes
- b) He has put on lots of weight
- c) He can walk on his hind legs
- d) He has begun to wear clothes

**What happens to the Seven Commandments?**

- a) All seven have been altered
- b) They've all changed back
- c) They totally disappear
- d) They are replaced by one maxim

**At the end of the novel, what is the name of the farm?**

- a) Manor Farm
- b) Animal Farm
- c) Napoleon Farm
- d) Orwell Farm

# A Feminist Perspective



## Simone de Beauvoir

- Gender is different from one's biological sex and is a social construction. Society expects each gender to behave in a distinct way.
- Women are oppressed as they are only valued for their looks and their societal function as wives and mothers. This is a restrictive gender role.
- Women are the 'second sex' as they are seen as less powerful and important to men. Society is therefore patriarchal.

**Feminist critics might argue that...**

**Supporting quote**

**All the pigs are male, suggesting a patriarchal society in which women are not seen as equal.**

**The hens are objectified, their sole purpose being to provide something to the society on the farm.**

**Mollie is a 'pretty face' who abandons Animalism soon after its rise, implying a weak and cowardly character.**

**Others might argue that "all animals are equal, but some are more equal than others" is a reflection of a patriarchal world in which women are equally human, but do not have equal rights.**

**Which animal hides during the Battle of the Cowshed?**

- a. Boxer
- b. Clover
- c. Jessie
- d. Mollie

**To whom does Napoleon sell the farm's pile of timber?**

- a. Mr Pilkington
- b. Mr Frederick
- c. Mr Jones
- d. Snowball

**How does Napoleon express his contempt for Snowball's windmill plans?**

- e. By spitting on them
- f. By giving a scathing speech
- g. By urinating on them
- h. By writing Snowball a letter

**Who reduces the ideals of Animalism to the phrase "Four legs good, two legs bad"?**

- a. Snowball
- b. Napoleon
- c. Squealer
- d. Boxer

**Who teaches the sheep to chant "Four legs good, two legs bad"?**

- a. Napoleon
- b. Moses
- c. Clover
- d. Squealer

**What is Sugarcandy Mountain?**

- a. The lullaby Napoleon makes pigeons sing to his piglets
- b. The idea of animal heaven spread by Moses
- c. The setting for the story Mollie tells to the lambs
- d. The mountain visible on the farm's horizon.

**How many letters is Boxer able to learn?**

- a. Four – A to D
- b. Zero
- c. Six – the number of letters in Napoleon's name
- d. All twenty six

**Which of the pigs is the best writer?**

- a. Napoleon
- b. Squealer
- c. Snowball
- d. Curly

**Which pig writes a poem about Napoleon?**

- a. Squealer
- b. Snowball
- c. Minimus
- d. Napoleon himself

**What does Napoleon rename Animal Farm in the end?**

- a. Napoleon Farm
- b. Pig Farm
- c. Freedonia
- d. The Manor Farm

**What is the name of the philosophy established by the pigs?**

- a. Porcinism
- b. Animalism
- c. Communalism
- d. Fourleggism

**What are Boxer's maxims?**

- e. "Snowball is always right" & "The glory of the farm"
- f. "I will work harder" & "The glory of the farm"
- g. "I will work harder" & "Napoleon is always right"
- h. "Snowball is always right" & "I will work harder"

**Which animal voluntarily leaves the farm?**

- e. Mollie
- f. Boxer
- g. Squealer
- h. Benjamin

**What is Boxer's ultimate fate?**

- a. He dies of old age
- b. The windmill falls on him
- c. Napoleon sells him to a glue factory
- d. Mr Whymper shoots him

**What is Mr Jones' main vice?**

- a. Lust
- b. Alcohol
- c. Gambling
- d. Cigars

**What title does Napoleon eventually give himself?**

- a. King of the Animals
- b. Lord of Manor Farm
- c. President of the Republic
- d. God of Beasts

**What is the reason for the windmill's initial collapse?**

- a. Snowball sabotages it
- b. The farmers dynamite it
- c. It falls in a storm
- d. Napoleon sabotages it and blames Snowball

**Which Russian leader does Snowball most resemble?**

- a. Lenin
- b. Trotsky
- c. Stalin
- d. Gorbachev

**Which Russian leader does Napoleon most resemble?**

- e. Stalin
- f. Trotsky
- g. Tsar Nicholas
- h. Khrushchev

**Which Russian institution does Moses the raven represent?**

- a. The Secret Police
- b. The Congress
- c. The Russian Orthodox Church
- d. The education system

# Power and Corruption

NEARLY ALL MEN CAN  
STAND ADVERSITY,  
BUT IF YOU WANT TO TEST  
A MAN'S CHARACTER,  
GIVE HIM POWER.

--- ABRAHAM LINCOLN ---



Can you link this quote to *Animal Farm*?

## The Stanford Prison Experiment

Zimbardo (1973) was interested in finding out whether the brutality reported among guards in American prisons was due to the sadistic personalities of the guards or had more to do with the prison environment.

For example, prisoner and guards may have personalities which make conflict inevitable, with prisoners lacking respect for law and order and guards being dominant and aggressive. Alternatively, prisoners and guards may behave in a hostile manner due to the rigid power structure of the social environment in prisons.

**Procedure:** To study the roles people play in prison situations, Zimbardo converted a basement of the Stanford University psychology building into a mock prison. He advertised for students to play the roles of prisoners and guards for a fortnight.

More than 70 applicants answered the ad and were given interviews and personality tests to eliminate candidates with psychological problems, medical disabilities, or a history of crime or drug abuse. The study comprised 24 male college students who were paid \$15 per day to take part in the experiment.

Participants were randomly assigned to either the role of prisoner or guard in a simulated prison environment. There were 2 reserves and one dropped out, finally leaving 10 prisoners and 11 guards. The guards worked in sets of 3 (being replaced after an 8 hour shift), and the prisoners were housed 3 to a room. There was also a solitary confinement cell for prisoners who 'misbehaved'. The prison simulation was kept as 'real life' as possible.



Prisoners were treated like every other criminal, being arrested at their own homes, without warning, and taken to the local police station. They were fingerprinted, photographed and 'booked'. Then they were blindfolded and driven to the psychology department of Stanford University, where Zimbardo had the basement set out as a prison, with barred doors and windows, bare walls and small cells.

When the prisoners arrived at the prison they were stripped naked, deloused, had all their personal possessions removed and locked away, and were given prison clothes and bedding. They were issued a uniform, and referred to by their number only. The use of ID numbers was a way to make prisoners feel anonymous. Each prisoner had to be called only by his ID number and could only refer to himself and the other prisoners by number. Their clothes comprised a smock with their number written on it, but no underclothes. They also had a tight nylon cap to cover their hair, and a locked chain around one ankle.

All guards were dressed in identical uniforms of khaki, and they carried a whistle around their neck and a billy club borrowed from the police. Guards also wore special sunglasses, to make eye contact with prisoners impossible. Three guards worked shifts of eight hours each (the other guards remained on call). Guards were instructed to do whatever they thought was necessary to maintain law and order in the prison and to command the respect of the prisoners. No physical violence was permitted.

**Findings:** Within a very short time both guards and prisoners were settling into their new roles, with the guards adopting theirs quickly and easily.

Within hours of beginning the experiment some guards began to harass prisoners. They behaved in a brutal and sadistic manner, apparently enjoying it. Other guards joined in, and other prisoners were also tormented.

**Read paragraph seven. List four things you learn about the treatment of the prisoners.**

**What does this experiment reveal about people who are given power?**

**What links can you make between this experiment and *Animal Farm*?**

**Find three quotations from *Animal Farm* which might suggest that power has led to corruption.**

- **Write them down.**
- **After each, explain how they show that power has led to corruption.**

## **True or False**

1. At the end of the book, the other animals finally stage a revolt against the pigs. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Though the farm first prospered, it later went bankrupt. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The police force of Animal Farm was the dogs. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Snowball and others are killed by the dogs following the hen's revolt. \_\_\_\_\_
5. All the animals learned to read, and they memorised the seven commandments. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Snowball was blamed as a saboteur for everything that went wrong. \_\_\_\_\_
7. *Animal Farm* is a fable. \_\_\_\_\_
8. The humans shot and killed Old Major during the Battle of the Cowshed. \_\_\_\_\_
9. One of the author's purposes is to satirise totalitarian rule in Communist Russia. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Napoleon decrees the drinking of alcohol to be punishable by death. \_\_\_\_\_

# POWER CORRUPTS. ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS ABSOLUTELY

What does this quote mean?

Can you relate it to Animal Farm?

## Key Theme: Power Corrupts

As well as an allegory of Russian politics and history, Animal Farm can also be taken as a more general analysis of humans who search for power. It explores the ways that prominent figures can gain and manipulate power for their own purposes and gain. In fact, it exemplifies the famous statement by Lord Acton that 'power corrupts, but absolute power corrupts absolutely'. As the pigs gain power, it becomes harder for them to resist the temptations of an easier life- especially as the other animals are so gullible and easily manipulated.

**Mind-map all the conditions of the farm that enable the pigs to gain power:**

**Conditions for Power**

# Exam Practice

It is argued that *Animal Farm* is a satire. With reference to the text, identify the targets that Orwell attacks. Is he successful?

Write about:

- The events that happen in the book
- The use of language and structure

## Intro

1

2

3

## Conclusion

### How does the writer achieve it?

- Identify a technique/interesting use of language
- Use a quote

### Why is it effective?

- Link to the actual words used
- What does it make you feel/do?
- What are the connotations?
- Does it have an emotional impact?

### Context

- How does this link to the time in which it was written?
- How does this link to Orwell's ideas?
- How does this link to the politics of Russia?

**Lit AO1:** Use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations.

**Lit AO1:** Read, understand and respond to texts, maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.  
**Lit AO2:** Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.

**Lit AO3:** Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written.

# Exam Practice

Look at the relationship between Napoleon and Snowball. How does it alter as the story progresses?

Write about:

- The methods Orwell chooses to present their relationship
- What others think and say about these characters

## Intro

1

2

3

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# Other Exam Practice Questions

'Animal Farm is a novel about the dangers of tyranny.' Explore the methods used by Orwell to explore this idea.

Write about:

- Which characters Orwell uses to present this theme
- The language Orwell uses to present this theme

**What do you learn about the role of Boxer in the book?**

Write about:

- Boxer's strengths and weaknesses
- How Napoleon and the other pigs treat Boxer
- How Orwell uses Boxer to raise ideas

**Animal Farm is sometimes referred to as a fable. What lessons does Orwell attempt to teach his readers?**

Write about:

- Orwell's use of fable and fairy tale conventions
- how the pig's behaviour contrasts with Old Major's initial ideals

**In what ways is Squealer an important character in the novel?**

Write about:

- his use of language in the book
- the methods Orwell uses to present him to the reader

**How are certain words and phrases altered in Animal Farm? Who changes them?**

Write about:

- the seven commandments
- what we learn of Orwell's ideas about language

**How important is the issue of education in Animal Farm?**

**How different would the farm have been under Snowball?**

**Discuss the significance of the seven commandments in Animal Farm.**

**How does Orwell explore the issue of trust in Animal Farm?**

**How does Orwell explore ideas around exploitation?**

**How** does the writer achieve it?

- Identify a technique/interesting use of language
- Use a quote

**Why** is it effective?

- Link to the actual words used
- What does it make you feel/do?
- What are the connotations?
- Does it have an emotional impact?

**Context**

- How does this link to the time in which it was written?
- How does this link to Orwell's ideas?
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## The great *Animal Farm* quiz

**Match the letter of the name on the right with the description on the left.**

_____	The farm's poet	Benjamin	Napoleon
_____	A quick talker	Moses	Old Major
_____	Oldest and worst tempered	Jones	Clover
_____	Majestic old pig with a dream	Mollie	Squealer
_____	Strongest animal on the farm	Snowball	Boxer
_____	Talks about Sugarcandy mountain	Minimus	
_____	Vain animal who likes ribbons		
_____	Original owner of the farm		
_____	Designer of the windmill		
_____	Takes over the farm as sole leader		

### Blockbusters

Which A is the name of the order awarded to Snowball?

Which B was the key event in the revolution?

Which B was a loyal servant of the revolution from the start and had the motto 'I will work harder'?

Which B is the cynical voice on the farm who would rather have no tail than to be bothered by flies?

Which B is the song of the revolution?

Which C is the gentle, motherly carthorse on the farm?

Which C is the name used by the animals to refer to each other after the revolution?

Which C represents the laws of Animal Farm?

Which D sleep at the foot of Napoleon's bed and accompany him around the farm?

Which F was to be preserved as a museum on the farm?

Which F is green and shows a horn and a hoof?

Which H initially refused to hand over their produce?

Which M told tales, was 'an especial pet of Mr Jones' and was hated by the other animals?

Which M is the name of the farm goat?

Which N was described as a 'large, rather fierce looking, Berkshire boar?'

Which O was the author?

Which O was the inspiration for the revolution?

Which S has 'very round cheeks, twinkling eyes, nimble movements and a shrill voice?'

Which S is a mysterious country to which, according to Moses, all animals go when they die?

Which W was proposed by Snowball, initially opposed by Napoleon, and later destroyed in an explosion?