

ANIMAL FARM



Study Guide

Table of Contents

Understanding Bloom’s Taxonomy of Learning.....	6
Themes.....	8
Types of Literature in Animal Farm.....	8
Cast of Characters- Animal Farm.....	10
Exploring the Characters.....	12
Ch. 1- Old Major Preaches Animalism.....	17
Ch. 2- Black into White.....	18
Ch. 3- Nine Dogs for Napoleon.....	19
Ch. 4- Battle of the Cowshed.....	21
Ch. 5- “The Propaganda Machine”.....	22
Ch. 6- “Pigs in a Blanket”.....	24
Ch. 7- Napoleon is always wrong.....	25
Ch. 8- “Comrade Napoleon”: Father of All Animals.....	27
Ch. 9- “Meanwhile, life was hard.”.....	29
Ch. 10- “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.”.....	30
Glossary.....	31
Resources.....	36

Introduction to Book Study

Hello! My name is Jim Palm; I was an English and history teacher for thirty years, working for two Christian schools, one in northern California and one in Brazil.

My love for America and our Constitution goes back to 1978 when I was serving my country in the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone, West Africa- one of the poorest and most corrupt countries on earth. Early in my two-year stint I learned that to get anything done in Sierra Leone, you had to pay a bribe.

I had just spent the four previous years at UC Davis, learning what a "terrible" country America was, how greedy we were, how unfeeling, how self-righteous, and smug in the knowledge that we had put a man on the moon. But when I compared America to what I saw in Sierra Leone, I began to love the United States of America.

I love America because it is founded on the principles of freedom for all and justice for all. It is also founded on the truth that all people are sinners; no human being can be trusted with too much power. We are taught the truth that we are all selfish, and it is necessary to protect ourselves from the worst our sinful hearts can imagine.

I have taught *Animal Farm* several times in my career. Looking realistically at the United States' current politics, *Animal Farm* casts a specter of doom over our republic. I have read many of the dystopian diatribes written to warn us about socialism, and *Animal Farm* is the best warning we could have. It is a scant ninety-seven pages, scarcely longer than its nemesis *The Communist Manifesto*, but no other book so clearly personifies the plague of socialism that is the bane of the modern world.

Animal Farm is more than a fable. It is a satire, an allegory for our modern predicament, but more than anything, *Animal Farm* is a 'roman a clef', a novel in which real persons or actual events are disguised as fiction. Animal Farm is Russia, and Mr. Jones is the Czarist regime. Napoleon the dictator pig is Joseph Stalin; the pigs are the ruling communists, and the great hope of the revolution is no hope at all.

The true church of Jesus Christ must stand against the lies and the constant propaganda fed to us by the media. They do not even pretend to be telling the truth anymore; they just feed us lies. God has given the task of truth-telling to the Church. For two thousand years, Christians have been willing to die for the truth,

and the truth spread. The Pharisees and the Romans failed to stamp out Christianity, and no totalitarian socialist dictator- the Antichrist included- can hope to rid the world of the truth of Jesus Christ. Jesus died for our sins, was buried, rose again on the third day, and He has given eternal life to those who believe. This truth alone gives us more hope than all of socialism's empty promises.

In our guide to *Animal Farm* we have included a synopsis of each chapter and some deliberately chosen questions to pique the interest of your children and students who are learning to articulate answers to the problems of sin and socialism. These kinds of questions make up the backbone of the *Animal Farm Study Guide*. Every question is written with "Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning" in hand. We do not spend too much time on the rote memorization of facts from *Animal Farm*; rather we use the facts to support our bold assertions.

We've done our best to make the questions challenging for anyone in high school, and we trust that your understanding of socialism after studying this guide to *Animal Farm* will be such that you will stand for historical American values like due process, trial by jury, writs of habeas corpus, freedom of speech and religion, and a free market economy. Join us in studying and understanding *Animal Farm* so we can keep socialists out of power for good. May the United States of America never again fall into the hands of men and women who have been outed as wolves in sheep's clothing, preaching the false and godless gospel of socialism and trying with all their might to destroy "the last best hope of earth'.

Understanding Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning

Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning was developed in the 1950's by Dr. Benjamin Bloom and his associates. The Taxonomy was revised in 2001, placing Creativity above Evaluation as the highest form of cognition or intelligence. The taxonomy is a step-by step model of learning objectives that move to greater difficulty as a student progresses and his mind develops. Bloom's Taxonomy typically is used with the Socratic method of using questions to determine how much a student knows about a particular subject. In this way the Taxonomy can be used to clarify for the teacher if their students are gaining in knowledge and skills.

There are three domains for Bloom's Taxonomy→

- 1) The **Cognitive domain** is restricted to knowledge, thinking, and intellectual outcomes.
- 2) The **Affective domain** is concerned with the growth and maturity of feelings.
- 3)The **Psychomotor domain** is involved in the description of manual and physical dexterity.

Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning: Cognitive Domain

For our purposes, this guide will use questions that will stimulate the Cognitive domain. The cognitive levels are, from lowest to highest:

Remembering	Do you remember the characters in the story? This is the most basic of the questions.
Understanding	Do you understand the characters in the story?
Applying	How would you use your knowledge of the characters in the story?
Analyzing	Do you know what the characters' motives are in the story? What are their hopes and fears?
Evaluating	What is your opinion of the characters' motives in the story?
Creating	Can you propose an alternative to the characters' actions in the story?

Themes in *Animal Farm*

Good	Evil
Freedom	Tyranny
Justice	Injustice
Happiness	Sadness
Industry	Slavery
Create	Destroy
Sacrifice	Selfishness

Types of Literature in *Animal Farm*

Literary Term	Definition	Example
Fable	a story intended to enforce a useful truth. Usually, a fable has wise or foolish animals who speak, think, and act like human beings	<i>Animal Farm's</i> useful truth → Socialism always leads to tyranny.
Allegory	the use of fictional characters to personify the truths about human existence.	In <i>Animal Farm</i> Squealer personifies Propaganda.
Satire	the use of humor, irony, and exaggeration to expose people's stupidity.	Boxer is continuously saying "Napoleon is always right." Ironically, Napoleon is always wrong.

Irony	the use of words and/or drama to express something that is the opposite of the literal meaning.	a little old lady who is a really slow driver is called “Speedy” by the neighbors.
Foreshadowing	an indication of what is to come in a piece of literature.	Old Major says, “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 fox-hounds.”
Roman a clef (roh-mahn ah KLAY)	a true story disguised as fiction.	<i>Animal Farm</i> is actually a history of early 20th Century Russia.
Determinism	a severely pessimistic view that everything happens because it’s predetermined to happen- badly, and sadly. No matter what we do, life is impossibly against us.	“Life is hard, then you die.” Boxer does his best to serve Napoleon, but Napoleon betrays Boxer and sends him to the horse slaughterer. Murphy’s Law- “If anything can go wrong, it will go wrong.”

Cast of Characters- *Animal Farm*

<u>Fable</u>	<u>History</u>
Mr. Jones	Czar Nicholas II and the Russian nobility
Old Major the Boar	Karl Marx and Vladimir Lenin
Boxer and Clover- the horses	The Russian people
Benjamin the Donkey	Cynical people who always seem to survive
Mollie the white mare- bourgeoisie	White Russians opposed to Red communists
The cat	The vast majority of people who care nothing about the news or world events.
Moses the tame raven	Religion, especially the Russian Orthodox Church
Sugarcandy Mountain	The Christian heaven
Rebellion, and the Battle of the Cowshed	The Russian Revolution, October, 1917

“Beasts of England”	The Internationale”- The communists’ popular battle hymn
Snowball	Leon Trotsky, brilliant communist organizer
Napoleon	Joseph Stalin, dictator of all Russia
Squealer	Bootlicking sycophant, master of propaganda
Animalism	Marxism, Communism
Sheep	Blind, slavish followers of Joseph Stalin
The Nine Dogs	The Secret Police, the Cheka- rule by terror
Foxwood, Mr. Pilkington	England
Pinchfield, Frederick	Germany
Windmill	Russian industry
Battle of the Windmill	World War II

Exploring the Characters

Boxer and Clover, the horses

The price of freedom is eternal vigilance.” ~ John Philpot Curran, 1790

The animals we admire the most in Animal Farm are Boxer and his mare, Clover. They are compassionate horses, unselfish in all they do. When first we meet them,...” Boxer and clover come in together, walking very slowly and setting down their vast hairy hoofs with great care lest there be some small animal concealed in the straw.”

Boxer and Clover lie down and Clover protects a brood of ducklings which had lost their mother.

Clover and Boxer are all that is good about the Russian people, warm-hearted, generous, and hard-working. There were many times that Boxer’s strength carried the animals through a hard winter or a prolonged battle with the humans trying to take back the farm. Boxer was especially needed in building the windmill, both times. In fact our appreciation for the souls of Boxer and Clover are how we feel and I think about most people in the world– good people.

The Achilles heel of Boxer and Clover is that they refuse to face the truth about Napoleon. Using the lie of propaganda, Squealer convinces Boxer of this motto, “Napoleon is always right.” But Napoleon is really always wrong. Every single action of Napoleon in this novel is wrong and hard-hearted.

Boxer frustrates us because he is so gullible and trusting. The animals win their freedom but none of them have the courage to hold on to their liberty.

Orwell makes us believe that it was the animals’ stupidity that kept them from seeing that the Seven Commandments were being changed, but really, the tyranny that was coming upon them could be discerned early and easily, even by stupid animals.

In our own time, we have seen the encroachment of President Bush (“W”) and Obama as they undermined the U.S. Constitution for the sake of globalism, the ultimate tyranny, the world’s elite want to rule us. They want to rule as as Napoleon ruled, with cruelty and whips.

We, the people, not trusting their motives voted to give Donald Trump the right to rule. We readily accepted his promises and his rhetoric of restored freedom. We accepted, believed, and voted. And in the 249th year of our American republic, 2025, our Constitution has been preserved. But tyrants will always rise, and we must discern their motives and confront them, with our lives if necessary.

Boxer's death is pathetic. The only time he fights back against Napoleon is when he kicks feebly at the horseslaughterer's wagon. Boxer comes to the end of his life having spent himself in service to Napoleon, who is indifferent to Boxer's old age.

Inevitably, Boxer falls and can't get up. Ironically, he is looking forward to his retirement— which is another pig promise that is not to be. Squealer arrives and expresses his and Napoleon's deepest condolences. They give Boxer useless Pepto Bismol for Boxer's lung failure, and our mighty horse does not get well.

A few days later, the pigs' love sham is betrayed by the arrival of the horse slaughterer. Benjamin calls his fellow animals fools because they have been so easily duped their entire lives. Their protests are to no avail— Boxer is doomed.

He is slaughtered, and it is implied that the sale of his hide and hooves paid for another case of whiskey for the thirsty (alcoholic) pigs.

Benjamin, the Donkey, and The Cat

The cat in *Animal Farm* represents the vast majority of people who are apathetic about the news or world events. The cat is only devoted to himself.

Benjamin, the Donkey, seems to be this kind of animal, but he is devoted to Boxer, the horse, and tries in vain to save his friend. His attempt to save Boxer is the only time that Benjamin speaks up about the injustice on the Farm.

The great Irishman, Edmund Burke, said, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing." Evil flourished on Animal Farm because the good animals did nothing when the pigs began to take over. The beginning of the end was when the pigs "appropriated" (stole) the milk for their own consumption instead of sharing it with everyone.

Mollie, the White Mare

With all of her interest in ribbons and the middle class life of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mollie represents the bourgeoisie- the class of Russians that owned the land but spent their lives as idle rich. They were the opposite of the Red Bolsheviks (communists) who seized control of the Russian government in 1917, and they were called White Russians. Many of them were murdered by the communists, but there was a remnant of White Russians that escaped from the Soviet Union. They settled in Europe, South America, and North America.

One of the ironies of *Animal Farm* is that Mollie was the only domesticated animal that ever escaped from the Farm. All the others became Napoleon's slaves.

Moses, the Tame Raven

Moses, the Tame Raven represents religion in *Animal Farm*. Like many socialists, Orwell believed that a faith in God was a useless appendage for mankind. He calls faith in a higher being a lie. Orwell says The Russian Orthodox Church (i.e. Moses) was a "pet" of the ruling class, a "spy and a talebearer" who was a "clever talker". To Orwell, faith in a God we cannot see was nothing more than propaganda, and just as dangerous, as it kept people in line, under the church control. There would never be a revolution if people obeyed God.

As for the promises of God, Orwell reduces the promises in the Holy Scriptures to a mockery of heaven called "Sugarcandy Mountain". Karl Marx called religion "the opiate of the masses". According to Marx, religion provides a false sense of comfort and contentment, preventing people from challenging their real suffering and fighting for social change.

It is unfortunate that George Orwell never lived to see the destruction of the Soviet Union. Orwell would have seen how important biblical truth and faith were to the people who suffered terribly under Stalin's iron fist. Faith had everything to do with the desire for freedom in Poland and East Germany. The more the Soviets attempted to stamp out Christianity in Russia and the countries they held in thrall, the stronger the secret house church movement in every part of this evil empire. And so, in 1990, the U.S.S.R fell, brought down by its own hubris and hypocrisy. Lest we forget, faith in God had everything to do with the changing of this government. Faith is always more than Sugarcandy Mountain.

Napoleon

In every scene in which Napoleon appears in *Animal Farm*, we see his crimes. He is a pig who is completely dedicated to taking over and ruling. First he steals the milk, and from then on, the milk was mixed in to the pigs' mash. The nine puppies were born and Napoleon hides them away and trains them to be his own vicious police dogs. Napoleon and the pigs steal the apples from the animals. They have Squealer around to make excuses and propaganda for them. Then the pigs appropriate (steal) all of the apple, windfall and regular crops.

Under Napoleon the animals were enslaved. They lived in fear for their lives. Napoleon used the dogs to kill his perceived enemies, all of whom were murdered after being tortured for their confessions.

He is a kind of antichrist, completely without morals and lusting after power. How much power does Napoleon want? Just a little more, always.

In this roman a clef, Napoleon is Joseph Stalin, the evil dictator of Soviet Russia from 1924-1953. Stalin stopped at nothing to consolidate control of Russia in his hands. His prison system was the largest in the world, including thousands of slave labor camps throughout the country. In 1937 with the Soviet Union on the brink of war with Germany, Stalin ordered the entire Russian General Military Staff to be murdered.

Learn more about Stalin here:

<https://historyuncensored.org/stalins-boyhood-from-a-cobblers-son-to-soviet-tyrant/>

Snowball

In 1924, Leon Trotsky and Joseph Stalin were in a struggle for control of the Soviet Union. Through subterfuge, Stalin forced Trotsky out of this position of leadership and exiled him from Russia. Every dictator needs an enemy, someone to blame when the dictator blunders.

This is how Stalin used Leon Trotsky and it is reflected in the way Napoleon exiled Snowball and then used him for the purpose of Propaganda. From the moment Snowball left Animal Farm, Squealer the Propagandist lied to the animals about Snowball and Napoleon.

Napoleon stole Snowball's ideas for the windmill and Squealer lied again— Napoleon was the pig who came up with the windmill idea in the first place.

And when the windmill is destroyed by a gale at the end of one November, whose fault is it? Snowball's fault- that's who! And then Snowball is seen skulking around, visiting Animal Farm at night. If anything went wrong Snowball was to blame. He became the farm's ever present bogey man. And it became ridiculous, the evil attributed to Snowball.

In reality, this is what happened with Leon Trotsky. He was vilified from every Soviet bully pulpit in the world, not just in Russia. Trotsky and his followers were labeled anti-Soviet counterrevolutionaries as though they had never participated in the Russian Revolution. In Russia, all of Trotsky's books were removed from any kind of circulation, bookstores, and libraries. Trotsky's name was erased from historical accounts, tributes, and new artifacts. Photographs were doctored to make Trotsky disappear.

Finally, Stalin had Trotsky hunted down in Mexico. There, in a suburb of Mexico City, the assassin murdered Trotsky with an ice axe. So ended the revolutionary life of Leon Trotsky.

Learn more about Trotsky here:

<https://historyuncensored.org/why-stalin-made-leon-trotsky-his-greatest-enemy-the-fall-of-the-revolutionary-hero/>

Squealer, the Liar

“The only thing that has to happen for evil men to succeed is for good men to do nothing.” -Edmund Burke, 18th Century Irish Statesman and Parliamentarian

Propaganda isn't just any old lie- Propaganda is the lie that persuades. Propaganda goes back all the way to the beginning of the world. In Genesis 3, Satan tells Eve a blatant lie, “You will not surely die if you eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” Satan's lie was the first propaganda, taking what God promised and persuading Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit. God promised Adam and Eve death if they ate the fruit, and they did die, and brought death to mankind and all of the earth. Satan has kept on lying for over six thousand years; he is the father of lies, lies that persuade. He's still lying today.

In *Animal Farm* we have another master propagandist, Squealer the pig, Napoleon's bootlicker. Both of them are children of the devil, twisting the truth and shading it to get people to believe a lie. Squealer adroitly turns black into white, and evil into good. When telling the animals that the apple crop and the milk were being stolen by the pigs, Squealer says, “Comrades, you do not imagine, I hope, that we pigs are doing this in a spirit of selfishness and privilege....Milk and

apples... contain substances absolutely necessary to the well-being of a pig.” Squealer falls back on his standard excuse for the privileged life the pigs enjoy. “You wouldn’t want Farmer Jones to come back and rule over you, would you?” The animals listen, believe, and obey, and the apples and the milk are reserved for the pigs.

Slowly, the pigs take over, and Squealer provides the excuses for Napoleon’s seizure of power. Animal Farm animals are rightly proud of the fairness and truth of the Seven Commandments. But one by one, through propaganda, Squealer changes the commandments to favor the pigs and cement their tyranny over the simple-minded animals. They accept what Squealer says to them and give up their hard-won liberty. Their one hope lies in the wise old donkey Benjamin who has lived a long time under one form of tyranny or another. He’s wise, but he isn’t willing to start an uprising that would cost him his life.

And what happens? In a time of starvation at Animal Farm, Squealer tells the animals a string of lies by using statistics. “Food production has increased by 200%”, Squealer says. And Napoleon exerts absolute control over the farm; no animal challenges his authority, so he struts around, an emperor, and the animals become so obsequious that even the chickens sing Napoleon’s praises when they lay more eggs than usual. A huge portrait of Napoleon is plastered at the end of the barn, and he is honored by poetry that celebrates his vaunted leadership. How does it end? Does it end like *Yertle The Turtle* with Napoleon suddenly falling from power into a mud puddle far below? No, the tyranny endures. Down the road to everlasting tyranny we go.

In absorbing the truth of *Animal Farm*, we would do well to remember the words of Patrick Henry on the eve of the Revolutionary War in 1775. Henry was an American patriot who, like John Adams in Boston, knew that war with Great Britain was inevitable. This is what Patrick Henry said to the Virginia Convention as Virginia debated the necessity of arming their militia against the British tyrants.

“Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!”

Patrick Henry’s speech swayed the Virginia delegates to pass a resolution committing Virginia to a course of Revolution against the British crown.

If only the animals of Animal Farm had such a leader. As it was, they could only wait for the deaths of Squealer and Napoleon.

The Nine Dogs

Early in the fable, Napoleon stashed nine puppies in his quarters. Months later, at a meeting of the animals, Snowball was speaking eloquently, when suddenly these full-grown dogs bounded into the barn and headed straight for Snowball. Their jaws snapping and their fangs slavering, they chased Snowball out of the barn, out into the fields, and away from Animal Farm forever.

The dogs represent the Secret Police. Terror is necessary for socialism to succeed. The people are forced to give up everything they have. The Secret Police become a law unto themselves, lawless lawmen, and tyrannical monstrosity. The Soviet Union was filled with prisons and prison camps. The Soviets perfected the ability to make a prisoner confess to crimes he had never committed. The Soviets used sleep deprivation, starvation, beatings and even mind-destroying drugs to force enslaved millions to obey.

The Story's End

Animal Farm ends cynically; we are left, dumb as animals, to see that the great hope of *Animal Farm* is no more. Napoleon has renamed the farm Manor Farm, which was the name of the farm in the beginning. Orwell leads us to believe that every free democratic society, socialist or capitalist, will be finally overthrown and returned to a tyranny that will be worse than the tyranny before. We are hopelessly mired in depravity.

But God's Word tells us that the future kingdom of Jesus Christ will last for a thousand years. What? Only a thousand years? You mean even Jesus' kingdom will also fail us and come to an evil end?

The end of Revelation does tell us that Jesus Christ will reign for a thousand years. Then Satan will be released for a short time to lead a huge army of the desired and the the disaffected, the last un-believers. There will be no battle this time—God destroys them instantly. And what becomes of Jesus' thousand year kingdom?

Does it fall to tyranny as has happened forever in human history? By no means! Jesus' millennial kingdom will give way to the New Jerusalem, a huge cubic city coming down out of heaven. There will be more evil tyrants, and there will be no more tears. There will be no more death, sorrow and no more pain.

And Jesus Christ will rule benevolently with the Father and the Holy Spirit and all of the saints will live with Jehovah God forever. This is how the world really ends.

If you want to learn more about George Orwell, the author of *Animal Farm*, you can do so here:

<https://historyuncensored.org/what-orwell-saw-how-animal-farm-and-1984-expose-totalitarian-lies/>

Ch. 1- Old Major Preaches Animalism

Summary

We meet Mr. Jones, owner of Manor Farm. We also meet the animals. Old Major, the prize boar, speaks to the animals and persuades them to revolt against Jones's cruelty. Major preaches the basic tenets of communism, which he calls "animalism". The animals are convinced by Major's speech, and he teaches them to sing "Beasts of England". They awake Jones with their boisterous singing, and Jones fires a shotgun at the barn, and the animals' meeting is cut short.

Learn more about Czar Nicholas II (referred to as Mr. Jones in the story) here:

<https://historyuncensored.org/nicholas-ii-the-last-czar-of-russia/>

<https://historyuncensored.org/the-boy-who-bleed-hemophilia-rasputin-and-the-fall-of-the-romanovs/>

Questions

1. Remembering- What was the name of the farm before Jones was kicked out?
2. Understanding- Compare Animal Farm to Manor Farm at the beginning of the revolution.
3. Applying- Write four questions that you would ask in an interview with Boxer.
4. Analysis- Why do you think Benjamin the Donkey never stands up for right until the day Boxer dies?
5. Evaluation- What is your opinion of Napoleon? (Essay style- 100 words or more)
6. Creating- If there had been any Christian animals at Animal Farm, write a prayer they might have said. (Essay style- 75 words or more)

Ch. 2- Black into White

Summary

For animals ready themselves for the revolution, and we meet the pigs who will run Animal Farm. They are Napoleon, Snowball, and Squealer. We learn that Squealer is a master of propaganda who can turn black into white. The pigs teach the animals that the Christian religion is nonsense; they should depend upon themselves, not upon some pipedream – Sugarcandy Mountain, the Christian Heaven.

We meet Boxer and Clover, the good-natured horses, and Benjamin the cynical donkey. The revolution comes through Jones's carelessness, and before we know it, Jones is thrown off Manor Farm. Briefly, the animals are free.

The Seven Commandments are introduced and the first crime occurs- Napoleon steals the milk so he and the other pigs can swill it.

Questions

1. Remembering- Who are the three most influential pigs who run Animal Farm?
2. Understanding- What facts from the story show us that Molly the white mare is not really a revolutionary?
3. Application- Moses the tame raven represents Christianity. How does George Orwell feel about religion in general and Christianity specifically? (Essay style: 75 words or more)
4. What facts could you make use of to prove that Christianity is not a bunch of lies?
5. Analysis- The revolution gave the animals freedom. Give at least five examples from Chapter 2 of the animals' joy in being free.
6. Evaluation- What judgment would you make about Napoleon's milk thievery? How is the theft foreshadowing?
7. Creating- How would you improve the lives of the animals at Animal Farm?

Ch. 3- Nine Dogs for Napoleon

Summary

We rejoice with the animals in their freedom and their successful management of Animal Farm, without Mr. Jones. For the first time, all the animals have enough to eat.

Boxer is a strong and noble horse, always hardworking. His motto is admirable, "I will work harder!"

The animals have Sunday off. They have their own flag. But the pigs slowly take over. Napoleon raises nine dogs to be his vicious secret police. The pigs are stealing the milk and the apples for themselves. The animals are surprised, but Squealer puts the animals' minds at ease with propaganda.

Questions

1. Remembering- What is Boxer's motto?
2. Understanding- How does the plot thicken when we read these lines, "Snowball and Napoleon were by far the most active in the debates...But these two were never in agreement..."?
3. Application- What changes happen to Benjamin the donkey after the Revolution?
4. Application- What would have happened if Jesus Christ were ruling the farm?
5. Creation- Design a flag for Animal Farm. Include 3 symbols.
6. Evaluation- How does this Robert Frost poem relate to *Animal Farm* especially Chapter 3?

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Nature's first green is gold,

Her hardest hue to hold.

Her early leaf's a flower,

But only so an hour

Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

- Robert Frost

7. At the end of Chapter 3, Squealer gives us an example of turning “black into white”. Give three examples of this kind of propaganda.

Ch. 4- Battle of the Cowshed

Summary

Men living in the region of Animal Farm are upset by the success of the animals—the animals have kept themselves from starvation and have shown skill in organizing the farm.

Jones and his men attack Animal Farm, intent on capturing the fields. The animals are ready for the attack, and Snowball the pig leads them to victory. This fight for the farm is called the Battle of the Cowshed; in reality it is the Russian Civil War. Snowball (Leon Trotsky) led the Russian communist troops to victory, even though they were outnumbered more than two to one.

Questions

1. Remembering- Who was the greatest hero of the Battle of the Cowshed?
2. Understanding- What is the main idea of Chapter Four?
3. Apply- If you knew your home was going to be attacked what preparations would you make beforehand?
4. Analyze- What motives did the animals have for attacking Jones and his men with such ferocity that the men ran in fear?
5. Evaluate- What is your opinion of Snowball at the Battle of the Cowshed? Support your answer with facts from the story.
6. Create- Create a map of Animal Farm as you would want it without the tyrannical pigs.

Ch. 5- “The Propaganda Machine”

Summary

Mollie, the white mare (symbol of White Russian nobility who fled Russia when the Communists seized power) runs away from Animal Farm and sells herself to a well-to-do saloon-keeper. The animals bid her good riddance.

Snowball and Napoleon begin to argue about every little thing. Napoleon sways the sheep into believing him. Snowball has realistic dreams of turning Animal Farm into an animals’ paradise. The basis for this dream is a windmill that will provide electricity (the windmill represents Russian industrialization). However, Napoleon wants the animals to work hard and grow more food. He says the windmill is nonsense.

At a meeting held to choose between Snowball and Napoleon, Napoleon surprises everyone when he sics his nine dogs on Snowball. Snowball barely escapes with his life. Snowball is banished from Animal Farm forever, at Napoleon’s order.

Voting and debates are outlawed by Napoleon. Napoleon turns on the Propaganda Machine, and the animals lose their freedom of choice.

Napoleon decides to build the windmill even though Snowball originally drew the plans. To build the windmill the animals become Napoleon’s slaves.

Squealer tells an enormous lie– he says that the plans for the windmill were actually drawn by Napoleon. Squealer portrays Snowball as a dangerous character and a bad influence. The animals accept his explanations– they are firmly under Napoleon’s thumb.

Questions

1. Remember- What animal deserted the farm and once again was harnessed by a man?
2. Understand- What do the sheep symbolize in Animal Farm?
3. Apply- What type of engineering would you study if you wanted to build a windmill? Draw the windmill at Animal Farm.
4. Analyze- What evidence can you find in Chapter 5 that Napoleon tried to kill Snowball?

5. Evaluate- What judgment would you make about Snowball's dreams of building a windmill? Give examples to support your opinion. (60 words or more)
6. Create- Besides the windmill, what other devices (minimum of 4) would enhance the animals lives at the farm?

Ch. 6- “Pigs in a Blanket”

Summary

The chapter begins with “All that year the animals worked like slaves.” They worked 60 hours per week, and Napoleon ordered them to work on Sundays as well.

Boxer shows himself to be a heroic workhorse, but the reader is uneasy about the tragic foreshadowing dogging Boxer’s life.

Napoleon makes a decision to trade with humans in blatant disobedience to the animals’ Seven Commandments. The pigs also start living in the farmer’s house and sleeping in the beds there.

When the windmill is destroyed, the animals despair. Napoleon blames the disaster on Snowball, and the animals are united in hatred of their common enemy.

Questions

1. Remember- By Chapter 6, what misery had Napoleon brought to Animal Farm?
2. Understand Irony- What is ironic about this statement? “This work was strictly voluntary, but any animal who absented himself from it would have his rations reduced by half.”
3. Apply- What would result if some innocent doves came to Animal Farm and preached the Good News there?
4. Analyze- Is the windmill really that important to Animal Farm?
5. Evaluate- Would it be better if Napoleon did not indulge in trade with human beings? Explain your answer.
6. Create- Using the facts at hand from Chapters 1-6, can you predict what will happen to Animal Farm?

Ch. 7- Napoleon is always wrong.

Summary

“Starvation stared them in the face.”

The animals spend a hard winter. Napoleon goes to great lengths to deceive the outside world into thinking that the animals have enough to eat. Napoleon forces the chickens to give up their eggs so the eggs can be sold— grain for the animals is to be bought with the proceeds.

Through propaganda, Snowball becomes ever more the boogey man. He is blamed for everything, but it is Squealer’s constant lies that convince the animals of Snowball’s treachery.

Napoleon orders four pigs to be arrested, and three dogs attack Boxer. Boxer fends off the dogs, and Napoleon orders Boxer to let one dog go. Poor Boxer! How could he not see that Napoleon actually ordered the dogs to kill him, the work horse who has given his all for Napoleon?

As for the four pigs falsely accused of treason, they are forced to confess that they have been in league with Snowball. After their confessions, the police dogs kill them on the spot. The confessions and slaughter continue.

Questions:

1. Remember- Name two lies that the humans were telling about life on Animal Farm.
2. Understand- Not every lie is told with words. How did Napoleon lie to Mr. Whymper just by filling the bins in the barn?
3. Apply- What examples can you find in the story that the animals were starving? Name three examples.
4. Analyze- Give three examples of Napoleon’s behavior that show us that Napoleon became more and more of an emperor and less associated with the animals.
5. Evaluate- Why does Napoleon suddenly renew his lies about Snowball when the farm is in such desperate straits in Chapter 7?

6. Create- Write a dialogue of human farmers meeting and conspiring to destroy Animal Farm. This would be the prelude to the Battle of the Windmill.
7. Remember- Joseph Stalin (Napoleon) had “show trials” where leading members of the Revolution were put on trial, tortured to confess, and then murdered. What does Napoleon do in Chapter 7 that is identical to the actions of Joseph Stalin?
8. Understand- Chapter 7 shows us the murderous side of Napoleon. What does Napoleon do that shows how evil he is? List four events.

Ch. 8- “Comrade Napoleon”: Father of All Animals

Summary

While maintaining his iron-fisted control, Napoleon becomes inaccessible to the animals. They give him many titles, all of which evidence the animals’ slavish worship. Napoleon is called: The Leader, Comrade Napoleon, Terror of Mankind, etc. Squealer and the animals give Napoleon all the honor and glory they would give to a god.

Napoleon sells a timber pile to Frederick, and the money that Frederick paid is discovered to be counterfeit. Frederick invades Animal Farm, and the Battle of the Windmill ensues.

In reality, this battle is World War II. In June of 1941, Adolf Hitler stabbed Joseph Stalin in the back by ordering the largest invasion force in history to attack Russia. The animals fight back and win the victory, but once again their windmill is destroyed. The pigs get drunk on whiskey and continue to trample on the Seven Commandments to satisfy their own selfish desires.

Questions:

Sychophant- a servile, self-seeking flatterer.

1. Remember- What do the animals do to show that they are sycophants?
2. Understanding- What historical war is described in Chapter 8?
3. Applying- Frederick is actually Adolf Hitler. Frederick the Great was one of Adolf Hitler’s favorite Germans. Do some research. Investigate the life of Frederick the Great. Why would Frederick have been Adolf Hitler’s hero?
4. Analyze- Write a happy ending for this pessimistic, deterministic novel. “And then Boxer kicked Napoleon in the head, and the animals lived happily ever after.”
5. Evaluate- How would you justify the animals rising up against Napoleon and the rest of the pigs?
6. Create- Can you predict the outcome for Animal Farm if Napoleon had suddenly died?

Ch. 9- “Meanwhile, life was hard.”

Summary

Still starving through another winter, the animals’ rations are reduced yet again. The pigs and dogs are still eating the same amount as before, but the animals believe every lie that Squealer tells them. He tells them they are free, but they are slaves to the pigs and dogs.

Boxer has grown old, and one summer evening, he falls and can’t get up. The animals rush to give Squealer the news and the lying pig is filled with “sympathy and concern”. He says, “Comrade Napoleon is distressed by the collapse of one of the farms’ most loyal workers.” Napoleon, of course, would send Boxer to be treated at a hospital. Napoleon calls a horse slaughterer, and Boxer is sent to his bloody demise. Of course the pigs lie their way out of it, and the animals believe Squealer’s lie that Boxer died happily.

Questions:

1. Remember- Chapter 9 is filled with foreshadowing of the tragic fate of Boxer. In chapter 9, find at least three hints of Boxer’s impending doom.
2. Understanding- How is Vladimir Putin’s rule of Russia like the rule of Joseph Stalin’s rule of the Soviet Union?
3. Applying- What is ironic about the term “Spontaneous Demonstration”?
4. Analyze- What is ironic about Animal Farm being declared a republic?
5. Evaluate- “In the middle of the summer Moses the raven suddenly reappeared.” Find this paragraph in Chapter 9 and evaluate George Orwell’s beliefs about Christianity. Why do the pigs let Moses stay on the farm?
6. Create- Can you invent a technological system which would have given the animals the paradise on earth that they looked forward to when Snowball was making all his plans?

Ch. 10- “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.”

Summary

This is the sad ending to the fable Animal Farm. The animals begin to die off. Napoleon becomes the fattest pig on the farm, weighing 336 pounds. Memories of the Revolution have grown dim. The animals still work hard, but all of their labor goes to making the dogs and the pigs richer. The dogs and the pigs never do any work.

Do the animals think of overthrowing their masters just as their ancestors threw off Mr. Jones’s shackles generations before? No, there is nothing heroic about the final animal state.

The pigs walk on two legs and carry whips to persuade the animals to work harder. Animal Farm is renamed Manor Farm, and life goes on for the animals as it always has, in slavery and resigned desperation.

Learn more about the Soviet Gulag System here:

<https://historyuncensored.org/the-coldest-hell-russian-gulags-for-the-czars-and-the-soviets/>

Questions:

1. Remember- At the end, how is Animal Farm a capitalistic farm?
2. Understand- Benjamin the donkey comes to the end of his life and realizes...”hunger, hardship, and disappointment...were the unalterable law of life.” How is this a deterministic view of life? Is it true?
3. Apply- How would you solve the problems of Animal Farm using what you’ve learned about democracy, equality, Jesus Christ and the free market system?
4. Analyze- Why do you think that the animals began to forget about the heroes of Animal Farm?
5. Evaluate- What judgement would you make about Squealer’s incessant and enormous labors that produced “mysterious” things called “files,” “reports,” “minutes,” and “memoranda”?

6. Create- How would you keep the history of Animal Farm vividly alive in the hearts and minds of the future generations of animals?

Glossary

A

articulate- gifted in speech

B

basic slag- fertilizer

beatific- joyful, blissful

blithe- carefree, lighthearted

bon mot- a word well spoken, a witty saying

C

coccidiosis- a common chicken disease caused by an avian parasite

conciliate- to appease or reconcile

contemptuous- scornful

contrive- to plot

cryptic- having a hidden meaning

cynical- distrustful in character

D

dynamo- a machine that converts kinetic energy into electricity

E

ensconce- settle, establish

F

filial- relating to a son or daughter

frosted in the clamps- damaged by frost while in an outside storage pile

H

hobnailed boots- boots with a leather sole, into which have been nailed small nails for traction.

hypocrite- a person who says one thing then does the opposite.

I

ignominious- shameful, e.g.-an ignominious defeat.

J

Julius Caesar- a Roman general from before the time of Christ.

Caesar had a genius for winning battles, and added much conquered land to the Roman Empire.

K

knacker- a buyer of old, worn-out domestic animals whose carcasses are used for making glue, fertilizer, and dog food.

L

league- verb, to join with.

linseed- flax seed, used for growing flax. Flax is used to make linen.

M

malignity- evil.

mangel-wurzels- large, coarse, yellow or reddish beets grown as food for cattle.

Mr. Jones's trap- a light, one-horse carriage with springs.

mute (verb)- to defecate.

N

nosebag- a halter made for horses' mouths, out of which they can eat oats or hay.

P

paddock-an enclosed acreage of farmland that is used to pasture animals.

paraffin oil- kerosene.

perpendicularity- a right angle.

pervade- to spread throughout.

pophole- a small, often ramp- connected door in the side of a chicken coop that allows the chickens to go in and out.

posthumous- after the death of someone.

poultice- a medical bandage that is heated and placed on sores or wounds to draw out infection.

publican- a person who owns a public house; in American parlance, a person who owns a bar.

Q

quarry- a place of exposed rock. The rock is cut from the earth and made into blocks for building.

R

rheumy- watery, as in 'rheumy eyes'.

S

scullery- a room for cleaning and storing dishes and kitchen utensils next to a kitchen sink.

skulk- lurk, lie in hiding with evil intent.

solicitor- a type of English lawyer.

sordid- evil, filthy, foul.

spinney- a grove of trees.

stone- An English measurement of weight, equal to fourteen pounds.

stump of hay- a pile of hay, a haystack.

superannuated- retired from work.

T

taciturn- habitually silent.

tractable- easily tamed.

trotter- a pig's hoof.

tushes- a pig's tusks.

tyranny- oppressive and cruel power.

A government in which absolute power is vested in a single ruler.

W

windfall- fruit blown into a person's yard by a providential wind. Luck, providence.

Resources

- 1) *The Communist Manifesto*, Graphic Novel Format, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels 1888, Adapted and Illustrated by Martin Rowson publisher- Self Made Hero, 2018, 2021
- 2) *The Gulag Archipelago*, abridged. Alexandr Solzhenitsyn, translated by Thomas P. Whitney and Harry Willett Perennial Classics, 2002, 2007, Harper and Row, 1985
- 3) *Into Siberia, The Life of George Kennan, an American Explorer in Siberia*, Gregory J. Wallance, St. Martin's Press, 2023
- 4) *The Man Who Loved Dogs*, Leonardo Padura Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2015
- 5) *Nicholas and Alexandra*, Robert K. Massie, Atheneum, 1967
- 6) *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovitch*, Alexandr Solzhenitsyn, Publishing specs vary by edition, Sample edition, Penguin Modern Classics, 2000
- 7) *The Russians*, Hedrick Smith, Quadrangle, 1976
- 8) *Stalin*, Edvard Radzinsky, translated by H.T. Willetts, Doubleday, 1996