



Animal Farm is George Orwell's satire on the corrupting influence of power. *Animal Farm* is a dystopian allegorical novel published in England in 1945. It reflects events leading up to and during the Stalin era in the Soviet Union before World War II.

One of the reasons why the book has such a wide appeal today is that it possesses those timeless qualities which enable readers of different generations and different cultures to apply its lessons to their own circumstances. One commentator has shrewdly observed: "There have been, are, and always will be pigs in every society, and they will always grab power. Even more cruel is the conclusion that everyone in the society, wittingly or unwittingly, contributes to the pigs' tyranny."

Animal Farm is more than a story about a farm. It is a commentary on the relevance of independent thought, truth, and justice.

As you read each section, please answer the following questions **on a separate sheet of paper in complete sentences.**

CHAPTER I

1. What is significant about how the animals arrange themselves as they gather to hear Major?
2. According to Major, what is the cause of all the animals' problems?
3. Name three (3) of the commandments Major gives the animals? How could each of them be considered a vice?
4. Examine the song "Beasts of England" as poetry. What is the message? Why do the animals like it so much that they memorize it on the spot?
5. Do you sympathize with the animals' complaints and goals? Why or why not?

CHAPTER II

1. After Major's death what happens to the idea of rebelling against man?
2. What causes the animals to finally rebel against Mr. Jones and his four farmhands?
3. When the humans have been chased from the farm, what do the animals do?
4. What is your opinion of the Seven Commandments?

CHAPTER III AND IV

1. Why is the animals' harvest better than previous harvests under the humans?
2. What further examples of the difference between the pigs and the other animals occur in these two chapters?
3. How is Squealer able to convince the other animals to accept whatever Napoleon decides?
4. What do the other humans think about Animal Farm? What rumors do they spread about it?
5. Describe the Battle of the Cowshed.

CHAPTER V

1. Why does Mollie run away from the farm?
2. What changes have been made in the weekly meetings over the last year?
3. What does "Four legs good, two legs bad" mean?
4. Explain the windmill controversy from Snowball's point of view.
5. Explain the windmill controversy from Napoleon's point of view.
6. Why does Napoleon want Snowball off of the farm?
7. What changes does Napoleon make after his dogs chase Snowball off the farm?
8. What is the importance of the dogs accompanying Squealer when he comes to talk to the animals?

CHAPTERS VI AND VII

1. Why does Napoleon decide to engage in trade with neighboring farms? Do you think this will be a good idea? How do the animals react?
2. How is the windmill destroyed? Why does Napoleon blame Snowball?
3. Why does Napoleon use Snowball as a scapegoat?
4. How does Napoleon react when the hens' rebel against his orders?

CHAPTERS VIII AND IX

1. What purpose is served by the production figures Squealer reads to the animals?
2. How is Napoleon becoming more and more like a dictator?
3. Why do humans attack the farm?
4. Why do the men blow up the windmill?
5. Why are the animals so easily fooled, even when they find Squealer with a ladder and white paint beside the barn at night?
6. What are living conditions like for all of the animals except the pigs and dogs?
7. Why does Napoleon allow Moses to return and to tell his stories about Sugarcandy Mountain?
8. What happens to Boxer? How do the animals deal with it?
9. Of what kind of person does Benjamin remind you? Give some examples. What makes people behave this way?

CHAPTER X

1. All seven commandments are erased. What is the new commandment? What is its importance?
2. At the conference with neighboring farmers, what new changes does Napoleon point out?
3. The pigs begin to walk on two legs. Is this evolution a sign of progress? Explain.