

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

English - Mid year assessment - prep+

### Animal farm

Animal farm is a story made by George Orwell. Eric Arthur Blair is his real name, he didn't use his real name as it would embarrass his family. Animal farm was written to expose the poverty. As the world leaders got more powerful and the ordinary got poorer, this fascinated Orwell. He used his thoughts and feelings to write animal farm. Orwell hoped that his writing would help to achieve liberty, more pay and less beggars. Not many people wanted to buy animal farm, and it was difficult to get published.

### Chapter summary's

Chapter 1 = Old Major informs the animals of a dream he had where the animals were free from the tyranny men. They also sing 'Beasts of England' which is similar to a national anthem.

Chapter 2 = Rebellion occurs as the animals get rid of Mr Jones. This represents the Russian revolution. Three new animals are introduced: Napoleon (intimidating boar), Snowball (who is intelligent) and Squealer (very persuasive / manipulative.) The animals change the name of <sup>manor</sup> ~~animal~~ farm to animal farm. Near the end the milk the cows produced disappears.

Chapter 3 = The pigs (the most intelligent) take charge and start to order the other animals around. They turn Old Major's dream into 7 commandments called animalism, this represents communism. Mollie and the shirk cat are the only ones who ~~shirk~~<sup>leave</sup> dismiss their duties. Boxer, who is powerful / handworking does most of the heavy labour and comes up with two personal mottos. 'I will work harder' and 'Napoleon is always right.' Snowball and Napoleon never agree, and Napoleon takes new-born pups and isolates them in a loft. It's discovered that the pigs have taken the milk / apples for themselves, and Squealer manipulates them into thinking that it's ok. This represents how Stalin ruled and used propaganda to dismiss any negativity regarding his rule.

Chapter 4 = By late summer the news about animal farm has spread across half the country. Thanks to Snowball sending messenger pigeons inciting rebellion. Mr Jones complains to the neighbouring farms. However, their rivalry with each other prevents them from working together. Jones comes back to reclaim his farm, but the animals under Snowball's rule fight back and win. Boxer who has unintentionally killed regrets it. Snowball tells him not to feel guilty and tells him, 'the only good human is a dead one.' They both receive medals with the inscription "Animal hero, first class."

## Keywords

Allegory = A story / poem with a hidden meaning.

Fable = A story conveying a moral

Anthropomorphism = human characteristics / behaviour given to an object or animal

Symbolism = A symbol to represent something big.

Foreshadow = When a writer hints to something yet to happen in the text.

Dictatorship = A ruler with total power over a country, which was obtained by force.

Totalitarianism = a system of government that is centralised / ruled by 1 person. Society have to follow rules set by the government.

## Key characters and who they represent

Mr Jones - original owner of Animal farm = Tsar Nicholas

Old Major - old pig who inspires rebellion and creates the idea of animalism = Karl Marx

Napoleon - intimidating boar = Stalin

Snowball - intelligent boar = Trotsky

Squealer = hard working, strong but unintelligent = Propaganda in the USSR.

Mollie - vain horse = Selfish middle class in Russia

## Seven commandments

• Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy

• Whatever goes upon 4 legs or has wings is a friend

• No animal 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

# Poetry

## Keywords

Epic Poem = A long narrative often featuring a hero.

oral tradition = When knowledge is passed down through speech / text.

Stanza = A paragraph in a poem

line = one line (in a poem)

Alliteration = Where two or more words begin with the same letter / sound

Simile = A comparison using like / so

Metaphor = A comparison where you say one thing is another

consonance = repetition of consonance in the middle / end of a word

Assonance = repetition of vowels in the middle / end of a word

vowels = a, e, i, o, u

consonance = letter that aren't vowels