

Animal Farm

BIG IDEAS: ‘POWER’ AND ‘SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY’

Key Characters.	
Mr. Jones	Drunken owner of Animal Farm. Embodies the tyranny of man.
Old Major	Wise, old pig. Inspires the rebellion with his rhetoric.
Boxer	Devoted citizen and immensely strong. Innocent and naïve.
Napoleon	Expels Snowball. Executes animals. Establishes himself as dictator. Controls with fear. Becomes Jones.
Snowball	Devoted to animalism and the education of lesser animals. Hero at the battle of cowshed.
Squealer	Mouthpiece of Napoleon. Uses propaganda to control the animals
Clover	Maternal, caring and loyal. Senses hypocrisy but cannot articulate it.
Benjamin	Long-lived donkey who refuses to feel enthused by the rebellion. Predicts that life remains unpleasant regardless of who is in charge.
Dogs/Sheep	Instruments of fear and control, educated by Napoleon.

KEY SKILLS:	
CF	Write a detailed response with clear ideas about the text that answer the question.
SR	Select relevant quotes from the extract to support my ideas.
WT	Identify writing techniques used.
AQ	Explain the effects of specific words and phrases.
ER	Explain the effect on the reader.

Key Knowledge:
<p>Power Imbalances – ‘Animal Farm’ explores power and control. Mr Jones owns the farm and uses his men and whips to keep the animals under control and maintain his power. This reflects the great inequality suffered by the majority of Russian people before 1917 – they had far less money and food than the ruling classes. Orwell shows that the animals have the power to challenge Mr Jones' control and take over the farm - using power in a positive way. He then explores how the pigs use rhetoric and propaganda to establish themselves in power and take control of the farm. It is interesting that the working animals, especially Boxer the horse, have great physical power but they don’t use it to break free from the control of the pigs.</p> <p>The corruption of political leaders and systems – ‘Animal Farm’ is famous for being a stinging critique of the development of Soviet communism. Although Orwell strongly believed in the socialist ideals upon which the revolution was built, he abhorred the ways in which these values had been repeatedly manipulated by those who rose to power. The gradual disintegration of the seven commandments visually depicts this. Many of the characters in the novel are eventually corrupted by the power they have, particularly the pigs, as they manipulate their position of leadership to exploit other animals.</p> <p>Class – ‘Animal Farm’ demonstrates through its allegory the means by which human beings seek to maintain and re-establish class structures. The novella shows how the oppressed wo are able to stand united in the face of adversity often generate their own class divisions over time after the enemy is eliminated. This is evident in the slow rise of the pigs to fill the void left by Mr Jones.</p>
<p>Assessment’s will be extract based questions.</p> <p>Baseline Assessment (Week 2) – Extract from Old Major’s Speech. “How does Orwell present Old Major as a wise and persuasive leader?”</p> <p>Final Assessment (Week 5) – Extract from one of Squealer’s Speeches.</p>



Key words:

Communism

Capitalism

Oppression

Tyranny

Allegory

Novella

Rhetoric

Grievances

Key Quotations:

“Four legs good, two legs bad.”	“All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others”	“If you have your lower animals to contend with,” he said, “we have our lower classes!”	“The pigs did not actually work, but directed and supervised the others. With their superior knowledge it was natural that they should assume the leadership.”	“The pigs now revealed that during the past three months they had taught themselves to read and write”
“The birds did not understand Snowball's long words, but they accepted his explanation, and all the humbler animals set to work to learn the new maxim by heart.”	“The flag was green, Snowball explained, to represent the green fields of England, while the hoof and horn signified the future Republic of the Animals which would arise when the human race had been finally overthrown.”	“All that year the animals worked like slaves. But they were happy in their work; they grudged no effort or sacrifice, well aware that everything that they did was for the benefit of themselves and those of their kind who would come after them, and not for a pack of idle, thieving human beings.”	“Is it not crystal clear, then, comrades, that all the evils of this life of ours spring from the tyranny of human beings?”	“At this there was a terrible baying sound outside, and nine enormous dogs wearing brass-studded collars came bounding into the barn. They dashed straight for Snowball, who only sprang from his place just in time to escape their snapping jaws.”

Rhetoric - The art of speaking or writing effectively and/or persuasively. Using language for maximum impact.

- **Ethos** – speaker has to prove why they can be trusted
- **Pathos** – logic and facts
- **Lagos** – appealing to the emotions of the audience
- **Dishonesty** – using lies and deception to convince
- **Direct Address** – words such as ‘we’, ‘us’, and ‘ours’ which link speaker and audience
- **Repetition** – the same words or phrase used near one another for effect.
- **Rhetorical Questions** – a question which does not require an answer.
- **Emotive language** – words or phrases which are used to manipulate the audience to feel a certain emotion.
- **Triples** – three words or phrases that are related in some way.