

► Read this text from Chapter 2 and pick out information about the changes made at the farm.

The pigs now revealed that during the past three months they had taught themselves to read and write from an old spelling book which had belonged to Mr. Jones's children and which had been thrown on the rubbish heap. Napoleon sent for pots of black and white paint and led the way down to the five-barred gate that gave on to the main road. Then Snowball (for it was Snowball who was best at writing) took a brush between the two knuckles of his trotter¹, painted out MANOR FARM from the top bar of the gate and in its place painted ANIMAL FARM. This was to be the name of the farm from now onwards. After this they went back to the farm buildings, where Snowball and Napoleon sent for a ladder² which they caused to be set against the end wall of the big barn. They explained that by their studies of the past three months the pigs had succeeded in reducing the principles of Animalism to Seven Commandments. These Seven Commandments would now be inscribed on the wall; they would form an unalterable law by which all the animals on Animal Farm must live for ever after. With some difficulty (for it is not easy for a pig to balance himself on a ladder) Snowball climbed up and set to work, with Squealer a few rungs below him holding the paint-pot. The Commandments were written on the tarred wall in great white letters that could be read thirty yards away. They ran thus:

15 THE SEVEN COMMANDMENTS

- Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy.
- Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend.
- No animal shall wear clothes.
- No animal shall sleep in a bed.
- 20 No animal shall drink alcohol.
- No animal shall kill any other animal.
- All animals are equal.

It was very neatly written, and except that "friend" was written "freind" and one of the "S's" was the wrong way round, the spelling was correct all the way through. Snowball read it aloud for the benefit of 25 the others. All the animals nodded in complete agreement, and the cleverer ones at once began to learn the Commandments by heart.

"Now, comrades," cried Snowball, throwing down the paint-brush, "to the hayfield! Let us make it a point of honour to get in the harvest more quickly than Jones and his men could do."

1. pig's foot 2. échelle

NOTE BOX

FOCUS ON... Irony

Irony is a figure of speech in which there is a difference between what is said and what is meant, between what things seem to be and what they really are. An author can resort to several types of irony so as to create a humorous or emphatic effect.

Verbal irony (or **sarcasm**) consists of saying the opposite of what you mean.

Situational irony (or **paradox**) refers to a situation that turns out to have the opposite result of what is expected.

Dramatic irony (or **tragic irony**) is a literary technique by which the full significance of a character's words or actions is clear to the reader, although unknown to the character.

- Look at the cartoon and explain what is ironical about it. (By-laws = local laws in a city/town.)

**1****a. Focus on the last of the Seven Commandments:**

How 'equal' to the other animals do the pigs appear to be in this scene?

b. How is the irony of the situation expressed?**2****What is the role played by the other animals in the creation of this new society?****Determiners****GRAMMAR LAB****a Focus on the determiners in the following sentences:**

Snowball took a brush between the two knuckles of his trotter.

These Seven Commandments [...] would form an unalterable law by which all the animals on Animal Farm must live.

No animal shall sleep in a bed.

What role do they play in the sentences?

b Complete the following sentences with a determiner:

1. ___ man is to enter ___ farm again.

3. Snowball climbed onto ___ ladder that was set against ___ wall.

2. ___ animals must obey ___ Seven Commandments.

PART 4

3 Focus on the tone of the passage as well as the phrasing of the Seven Commandments: what elements make the pigs' decisions seem incontestable?

4 Comment on the devices used to undermine the image of the pigs throughout the passage. Find examples of:

a. verbal irony:

b. irony of situation:

c. paradox:

5 Check your understanding

a. Tick true or false.

1. The pigs do not work on the farm.
2. The animals voted to rename the farm.
3. The pigs behave like leaders.
4. The Seven Commandments is a list of suggestions.
5. *Animal Farm* is a perfect example of equality.

True **False**

b. Give three examples of ironic elements in the text.

1.

2.

3.

YOUR TASK



Write a short paragraph in which Snowball gives explanations about the Seven Commandments.

STEP 1. Choose the animals he is addressing and recap their main features.

STEP 2. Use references to the story so as to illustrate each law.

STEP 3. Add comments to underline the irony of his explanations.

READ ON

Read the last few paragraphs of Chapter 2. Find another example of situational irony and think about the image it gives us of the pigs.

The pigs were so clever

► Read these extracts from Chapter 3 and pick out information about the new life on the farm.

Extract 1

Sometimes the work was hard; the implements had been designed for human beings and not for animals, and it was a great drawback¹ that no animal was able to use any tool that involved standing on his hind legs². But the pigs were so clever that they could think of a way round every difficulty. As for the horses, they knew every inch of the field, and in fact understood the business of mowing³ and raking far better than Jones and his men had ever done. 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. Boxer and Clover would harness themselves to the cutter or the horse-rake (no bits or reins were needed in these days, of course) and tramp steadily round and round the field with a pig walking behind and calling out "Gee up⁴, comrade!" or "Whoa back⁵, comrade!" as the case might be. And every animal down to the humblest worked at turning the hay and gathering it. Even the ducks and hens toiled to and fro all day in the sun, carrying tiny wisps of hay in their beaks. In the end they finished the harvest in two days' less time than it had usually taken Jones and his men. Moreover, it was the biggest harvest that the farm had ever seen. There was no wastage whatever; the hens and ducks with their sharp eyes had gathered up the very last stalk. And not an animal on the farm had stolen so much as a mouthful.

1. disadvantage 2. patte arrière 3. cutting the grass 4. allez hue ! 5. holà / stop !

Extract 2

The mystery of where the milk went to was soon cleared up. It was mixed every day into the pigs' mash¹. The early apples were now ripening², and the grass of the orchard was littered with windfalls³. The animals had assumed as a matter of course that these would be shared out equally; one day, however, the order went forth that all the windfalls were to be collected and brought to the harness-room for the use of the pigs. At this, some of the other animals murmured, but it was no use. All the pigs were in full agreement on this point, even Snowball and Napoleon. Squealer was sent to make the necessary explanations to the others.

"Comrades!" he cried. "You do not imagine, I hope, that we pigs are doing this in a spirit of selfishness and privilege? Many of us actually dislike milk and apples. I dislike them myself. Our sole object in taking these things is to preserve our health. Milk and apples (this has been proved by Science, comrades) contain substances absolutely necessary to the well-being of a pig. We pigs are brainworkers. The whole management and organisation of this farm depend on us. Day and night we are watching over your welfare. It is for YOUR sake⁴ that we drink that milk and eat those apples. Do you know what would happen if we pigs failed in our duty? Jones would come back! Yes, Jones would come back! Surely, comrades," cried Squealer almost pleadingly, skipping from side to side and whisking his tail, "surely there is no one among you who wants to see Jones come back?"

Now if there was one thing that the animals were completely certain of, it was that they did not want Jones back. When it was put to them in this light, they had no more to say. The importance of keeping the pigs in good health was all too obvious. So it was agreed without further argument that the milk and the windfall apples (and also the main crop of apples when they ripened) should be reserved for the pigs alone.

NOTE BOX

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Focus on... Propaganda

Propaganda is a political strategy which consists of spreading information – often misleading or biased – so as to manipulate people's beliefs and actions. Such a goal is achieved through the selection of specific facts and events that are distorted, as well as the deliberate omission of other elements. Propaganda is also based on the use of symbols such as gestures, banners, monuments, music or clothing. This technique of mass persuasion is often associated with totalitarian regimes. In the Soviet Union, it was one of the means used to control the citizens, and to promote the Communist party. During World War II, Orwell worked for the BBC (1941–1943), broadcasting Ministry-of-Information-approved propaganda talks to India, and his wife worked in the Ministry's censorship division.

- This 1920 propaganda poster reads "Are YOU signed up as a volunteer?" In what way does it remind you of British or American WWI posters?



- 1** For each text: highlight the references to the pigs' roles in red, and the references to the other animals' actions in green. What can you infer from the comparison of these elements?

- 2** Explain how the differences of situations are justified by the pigs.

3 What strategies are used to denounce the pigs' attitude?

FOCUS ON... Totalitarianism

Totalitarianism refers to an authoritarian political system in which citizens are subject to an absolute state authority. Power is centralized and controlled by the government. All aspects of public and private life are regulated through the establishment of one single party favouring the cult of its leader and the repression of any political opposition. Such a system is maintained

through the use of propaganda and mass surveillance, the restriction of individual freedoms, the control of media, etc. The result is a society based on terror and oppression.

Examples of totalitarian states include the Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin, Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler...

4 Check your understanding

a. Who are the subjects of the following verbs?

Extract 1

1. "think" (l.3) ...
2. "mowing and raking" (l.4) ...
3. "supervised" (l.5) ...
4. "walking behind" (l.8) ...

Extract 2

5. "murmured" (l.5) ...
6. "make the necessary explanations" (l.6-7) ...
7. "eat those apples" (l.13) ...
8. "agreed" (l.19) ...

b. Give three arguments used by the pigs to justify their privileges.

1.
2.
3.

YOUR TASK



Imagine a speech made by the pigs to convince the other animals to do all the hard work on the farm.

- STEP 1.** The pigs present the new rules to the other animals.
- STEP 2.** They use arguments to convince them.
- STEP 3.** Don't forget to use the devices at work in your excerpt so as to be more convincing.

READ ON

Carry on reading Chapter 3 until the extract on the next page. Focus on the three paragraphs from "None of the other animals on the farm could get further than the letter A" to "never growing tired of it". Comment on the manipulation of language by the pigs: how are words used as propaganda tools?



The Battle of the Cowshed

► As you read this excerpt from Chapter 4, find out about the outcome of the battle (winners, casualties/victims, heroes, ceremonies).

All the men were gone except one. Back in the yard Boxer was pawing¹ with his hoof at the stable-lad who lay face down in the mud, trying to turn him over. The boy did not stir².

"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?"

⁵ "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."

"I have no wish to take life, not even human life," repeated Boxer, and his eyes were full of tears.

"Where is Mollie?" exclaimed somebody.

¹⁰ Mollie in fact was missing. For a moment there was great alarm; it was feared that the men might have harmed³ her in some way, or even carried her off with them. In the end, however, she was found hiding in her stall with her head buried among the hay in the manger. She had taken to flight as soon as the gun went off. And when the others came back from looking for her, it was to find that the stable-lad, who in fact was only stunned⁴, had already recovered and ¹⁵ made off.

The animals had now reassembled in the wildest excitement, each recounting his own exploits in the battle at the top of his voice. An impromptu celebration of the victory was held immediately. The flag was run up and 'Beasts of England' was sung a number of times, then the sheep who had been killed was given a solemn funeral, a hawthorn bush being planted on her ²⁰ grave. At the graveside, Snowball made a little speech, emphasising the need for all animals to be ready to die for Animal Farm if need be.

²⁵ The animals decided unanimously to create a military decoration, "Animal Hero, First Class," which was conferred there and then on Snowball and Boxer. It consisted of a brass medal (they were really some old horse-brasses⁵ which had been found in the harness-room), to be worn on Sundays and holidays. There was also "Animal Hero, Second Class," which was conferred posthumously on the dead sheep.

There was much discussion as to what the battle should be called. In the end, it was named the Battle of the Cowshed, since that was where the ambush had been sprung. Mr. Jones's gun had been found lying in the mud, and it was known that there was a supply of cartridges in the ³⁰ farmhouse. It was decided to set the gun up at the foot of the flagstaff, like a piece of artillery, and to fire it twice a year — once on October the twelfth, the anniversary of the Battle of the Cowshed, and once on Midsummer Day, the anniversary of the Rebellion.

1. of an animal, to touch with the foot 2. move 3. hurt 4. assommé 5. médailon de harnais

NOTE BOX

1 a. Fill in the grid with quotations from the text, and give their meanings.

STORY	APPEARANCES	REALITY
stable lad	"face down in the mud" "did not stir" → He seems.....
Mollie
medal

b. What message is delivered to the reader through these misleading elements?

.....
.....

2 Explain how different from the rebellion this fight turns out to be.

.....

3 Explain the use of aphorisms and symbols in:

a. the dialogue between Boxer and Snowball. (II.3-8)

.....
.....
.....

b. Snowball's speech. (II.20-21)

.....
.....
.....

c. the reference to Mr Jones's gun. (II.28-32)

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.....
.....

FOCUS ON... Aphorisms

An aphorism is a concise statement expressing a wider truth or idea. It often refers to philosophical, moral or literary principles. Aphoristic statements have been used both in writings and orally by famous philosophers, politicians, writers and artists. The truth they contain give them a universal dimension. They can sometimes be humorous.

Examples of aphorisms are proverbs, maxims and clichés. They allow their authors to teach a philosophical or moral truth about human experiences. No wonder then that motivational speeches contain such statements as a way of inspiring and stimulating an audience.

For example: "Who controls the past controls the future. Who controls the present controls the past." (George Orwell, 1984)

"Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely." (Lord Acton, British historian and politician.)

- Find similar aphorisms in this passage as well as in the previous texts.
-
.....
.....

4 a. Focus on the role played by the animals: are they really the decision-makers?

.....
.....
.....

b. Highlight the sentences used to refer to the decisions made by the animals. What type of verbal structure prevails? Why?

.....
.....
.....

STYLE LAB

Rhetoric

Rhetoric – the art of discourse – refers to a set of techniques used in literature to express oneself in an effective and persuasive way. It dates back to Ancient Greece when it described the art of public speaking. With modern rhetoric, which applies both to oral or written texts, the emphasis is laid on the intention of the orator/author. This art of discourse makes use of eloquence to influence, persuade or please an audience. Various rhetorical figures contribute to reach such an effect: rhetorical questions, repetition, hyperbole, alliteration and assonances, apostrophe, etc.

Common examples of rhetorical texts are religious sermons or political speeches. Note that an image can contain rhetorical devices.

- Focus on the poster: what rhetorical devices are used to promote changes in livestock farming?



- 2** Pick out information about Snowball's arguments: what elements show that he is a convincing speaker? Then circle all the verbs referring to Napoleon and comment on the strategy he adopts to reply to Snowball.

MODE OF EXPRESSION	SNOWBALL	NAPOLEON
Speech Duration
Emotions
Tone
Type of words/sounds
Impact on the audience

FOCUS ON... Soviet Secret Police Agencies

Between the creation of the "Cheka" by Lenin at the end of the October Revolution (1917) and the establishment of the KGB in 1954, various secret police agencies were used by the leaders of the new Soviet Union to impose their authority. Under Stalin's rule, the secret police became a systematic means of control and oppression. The NKVD (abbreviation for the People's Commissariat

for Internal Affairs) was created by Stalin in 1934 both to put in place an industrial communist nation and to protect his power. He resorted to the NKVD to assassinate his enemies and to carry out purges. From 1936 to 1938 the actions led by the agency were described as the "Great Terror".

4 Comment on the impact of Napoleon's handling of the situation on the other animals. How is this echoed in the text?

a. Snowball's reaction:

b. Reaction(s) of the other animals:

4 Focus on the dogs: what do they remind you of?

5 a. Focus on the last paragraph. In the following sentence, what sounds are repeated?

At this there was a terrible baying sound outside, and nine enormous dogs wearing brass-studded collars came bounding into the barn.

b. What is the effect of these alliterations?

6 Check your understanding

a. Match each phrase with one or more characters.

dogs • Napoleon • sheep • Snowball • the other animals

1. 'the windmill was nonsense' (I.5):

5. 'high-pitched whimper' (I.16):

2. 'barely thirty seconds' (I.6):

6. 'terrible baying sound' (I.18):

3. 'bleating again' (I.8):

7. 'too (...) frightened to speak' (I.21):

4. 'In glowing sentences' (I.10):

8. 'put on an extra spurt' (I.26):

b. Sum up three distinct ways brutality is expressed in the text.

1.

2.

3.

YOUR TASK

1 Make an advertising poster to promote the windmill.

STEP 1. Make a list of arguments based on the information in the text.

STEP 2. Use striking images to depict a paradise-like farm.

STEP 3. Come up with stirring slogans to catch the animals' attention. Use alliterations to make it sound more vivid.

READ ON

Carry on reading Chapter 5. Focus on the passage just after this scene, from 'Napoleon, with the dogs following him' to 'his private motto of "I will work harder."'. What arguments and devices are used by Napoleon and Squealer to manipulate the other animals?



Reign of terror

Read this text from Chapter 7 and list the orders given by Napoleon.

Extract 1

Four days later, in the late afternoon, Napoleon ordered all the animals to assemble in the yard. When they were all gathered together, Napoleon emerged from the farmhouse, wearing both his medals (for he had recently awarded himself "Animal Hero, First Class", and "Animal Hero, Second Class"), with his nine huge dogs frisking round him and uttering growls that sent shivers¹ down all the animals' spines. They all cowered² silently in their places, seeming to know in advance that some terrible thing was about to happen.

Napoleon stood sternly surveying³ his audience; then he uttered a high-pitched whimper. Immediately the dogs bounded forward, seized four of the pigs by the ear and dragged them, squealing with pain and terror, to Napoleon's feet. The pigs' ears were bleeding, the dogs had tasted blood, and for a few moments they appeared to go quite mad. To the amazement of everybody, three of them flung themselves upon Boxer. Boxer saw them coming and put out his great hoof, caught a dog in mid-air, and pinned him to the ground. The dog shrieked for mercy and the other two fled with their tails between their legs. Boxer looked at Napoleon to know whether he should crush the dog to death or let it go. Napoleon appeared to change countenance, and sharply ordered Boxer to let the dog go, whereat Boxer lifted his hoof, and the dog slunk away⁴, bruised and howling.

Presently the tumult died down. The four pigs waited, trembling, with guilt⁵ written on every line of their countenances. Napoleon now called upon them to confess their crimes. They were the same four pigs as had protested when Napoleon abolished the Sunday Meetings. Without any further prompting they confessed that they had been secretly in touch with Snowball ever since his expulsion, that they had collaborated with him in destroying the windmill, and that they had entered into an agreement with him to hand over Animal Farm to Mr. Frederick. They added that Snowball had privately admitted to them that he had been Jones's secret agent for years past. When they had finished their confession, the dogs promptly tore their throats out⁶, and in a terrible voice Napoleon demanded whether any other animal had anything to confess.

The three hens who had been the ringleaders⁷ 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 ram⁸, 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, which had been unknown there since the expulsion of Jones.

1. cause someone to tremble 2. draw back in fear 3. scrutinise 4. leave furtively 5. culpabilité 6. égorer
7. leader of a gang of criminals 8. male sheep

NOTE BOX

PART 9

PA

- 1** a. Focus on Napoleon: find elements in the text which contribute to depicting him as a tyrant.

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.....
.....
.....

- b. Comment on the significance of his name.

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.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

- 2** Find out how an impression of terror is created in this scene. Pick out information about:

CHARACTERS	ACTIONS / REACTIONS	STYLISTIC DEVICES USED
Napoleon
The dogs
Boxer
The other animals

- 3** Comment on the similarities between Stalin's Great Purges (see next page) and the actions led by Napoleon.

READ ON Stalin's Great Purges

In the late 1930s, a series of both show and unpublished trials were organised in the Soviet Union. The accused were Old Bolsheviks - political rivals or critics of Stalin - who had confessed being guilty of treason. Most of them were executed or imprisoned. It was later revealed that the secret police had tortured or intimidated them into confessing crimes they had not committed.

In addition to these trials, an even wider purge was carried out and millions of "enemies of the people" were sent to prison camps.

Focus on the image. How does it denounce both the monstrosity and the absurdity of Stalin's Great Purges?



Cartoon "Stalin and his companions" published in the French newspaper Aux Ecoutes, 1938.

A Explain how the absurdity of the situation is denounced. In order to do so refer to...

a. examples of absurd actions:

.....
.....
.....

b. an example of accumulation / excess / exaggeration:

.....
.....
.....

c. an ironical comment:

.....
.....
.....

**Check your understanding**

* Name the characters who do these actions:

1. order (l.1) =
2. other grunts (l.4) =
3. stand sternly surveying (l.7) =
4. snarl with pain and terror (ll.8-9) =
5. look at Napoleon (l.13) =
6. change countenance (l.14) =
7. confess their crimes (l.17) =
8. slaughter (l.27) =

READ ON

Read the passage from "The animals huddled about Clover" to "lacked the words to express them" and focus on Clover's overview of the situation. How does the scene underline the tragic dimension of the situation? Then, read on to the next excerpt, and focus on the way Napoleon's attitude evolves. What aspects of his leadership are denounced?



F PART 9

► Read this text from Chapter 7 and list the orders given by Napoleon.

Extract 2

Terrified, the animals waited. It was impossible now to venture out of the shelter of the buildings. After a few minutes the men were seen to be running in all directions. Then there was a deafening roar¹. The pigeons swirled into the air, and all the animals, except Napoleon, flung themselves flat on their bellies and hid their faces. When they got up again, a huge cloud of black smoke was hanging where the windmill had been. Slowly the breeze drifted it away. The windmill had ceased to exist!

At this sight the animals' courage returned to them. The fear and despair they had felt a moment earlier were drowned in their rage against this vile, contemptible act. A mighty cry for vengeance went up, and without waiting for further orders they charged forth in a body and made straight for the enemy. This time they did not heed the cruel pellets² that swept over them like hail³. It was a savage, bitter battle. The men fired again and again, and, when the animals got to close quarters, lashed out with their sticks and their heavy boots. A cow, three sheep, and two geese were killed, and nearly everyone was wounded. Even Napoleon, who was directing operations from the rear, had the tip of his tail chipped by a pellet. But the men did not go unscathed either. Three of them had their heads broken by blows from Boxer's hoofs; another was gored in the belly by a cow's horn; another had his trousers nearly torn off by Jessie and Bluebell. And when the nine dogs of Napoleon's own bodyguard, whom he had instructed to make a detour under cover of the hedge, suddenly appeared on the men's flank, baying ferociously, panic overtook them. They saw that they were in danger of being surrounded. Frederick shouted to his men to get out while the going was good, and the next moment the cowardly enemy was running for dear life. The animals chased them right down to the bottom of the field, and got in some last kicks at them as they forced their way through the thorn hedge.

They had won, but they were weary and bleeding. Slowly they began to limp back towards the farm. The sight of their dead comrades stretched upon the grass moved some of them to tears. And for a little while they halted in sorrowful silence at the place where the windmill had once stood. Yes, it was gone; almost the last trace of their labour was gone! Even the foundations were partially destroyed. And in rebuilding it they could not this time, as before, make use of the fallen stones. This time the stones had vanished too. The force of the explosion had flung them to distances of hundreds of yards. It was as though the windmill had never been.

1. prolonged sound 2. *balle en plomb* 3. *grêle*

NOTE BOX

- 1 How is Napoleon depicted in this scene? To what extent does he appear as a military hero or a military strategist?

2 Comment on the way the scene is staged: how is the battle given a theatrical dimension?

- Unity of time, place and action:
- Theatrical effects:
- Role played by the animals in the first paragraph:
- Theatrical turns of phrase:
- References to the windmill:

TRANSLATION LAB

Compare the following passage and its translation.

They saw that they were in danger of being surrounded. Frederick shouted to his men to get out while the going was good, and the next moment the cowardly enemy was running for dear life. The animals chased them right down to the bottom of the field, and got in some last kicks at them as they forced their way through the thorn hedge.

Ils se voient en danger d'être encerclés. Frederick crie à ses hommes de détalier pendant qu'il en est temps, et dans l'instant voilà les lâches qui prennent le large. C'est un sauve-qui-peut, un sauve-ta-peau. Alors les animaux prennent les hommes en chasse. Ils les traquent jusqu'au bas du champ. Et là, les voyant se faufiler à travers la haie, ils les obligent d'encore quelques ruades.

Translation: Jean Quéval, 1981, Éditions Champ libre

3 Observe the following elements:

- the **phrasal verbs**. What are the different solutions used to translate them? Why?
.....
- the **being form**. What is its value and how is it rendered in French?
.....
- the conjunction as. What is expressed by the French translation?
.....
- the two **pronominal verbs** used in the French version. Explain what they replace.
.....

4 Focus on the underlined phrases: comment on the choices made in French to translate them.

5 Focus on the last sentence and comment on the word order in French.

PART
10

"Long live humanity"

► Read this excerpt from Chapter 9 and identify the different fake stories the animals on the farm come to believe in.

In April, Animal Farm was proclaimed a Republic, and it became necessary to elect a President. There was only one candidate, Napoleon, who was elected unanimously. On the same day it was given out that fresh documents had been discovered which revealed further details about Snowball's complicity with Jones. It now appeared that Snowball had not, as the animals had previously imagined, merely attempted to lose the Battle of the Cowshed by means of a stratagem, but had been openly fighting on Jones's side. In fact, it was he who had actually been the leader of the human forces, and had charged into battle with the words "Long live Humanity!" on his lips. The wounds on Snowball's back, which a few of the animals still remembered to have seen, had been inflicted by Napoleon's teeth.

In the middle of the summer Moses the raven suddenly reappeared on the farm, after an absence of several years. He was quite unchanged, still did no work, and talked in the same strain¹ as ever about Sugarcandy Mountain. He would perch on a stump² flap his black wings, and talk by the hour to anyone who would listen. "Up there, comrades," he would say solemnly, pointing to the sky with his large beak — "up there, just on the other side of that dark cloud that you can see — there it lies, Sugarcandy Mountain, that happy country where we poor animals shall rest for ever from our labours!" He even claimed to have been there on one of his higher flights, and to have seen the everlasting fields of clover³ and the seed cake and lump sugar growing on the hedges. Many of the animals believed him. Their lives now, they reasoned, were hungry and laborious; was it not right and just that a better world should exist somewhere else? A thing that was difficult to determine was the attitude of the pigs towards Moses. They all declared contemptuously that his stories about Sugarcandy Mountain were lies, and yet they allowed him to remain on the farm, not working, with an allowance⁴ of a gill of beer a day.

1. style 2. souche d'arbre 3. trèfle 4. ration

NOTE BOX

1 Explain how the animals are manipulated into accepting the regime established by the pigs. Comment on:

- a. the proclamation of the Republic:
- b. the reference to Snowball:
- c. the role played by Moses and the significance of his name:

PART 10

- 2** a. Comment on the similarities between Animal Farm and Manor Farm under Mr Jones.

- b. What message is conveyed here?

.....
.....

- 3** Explain how this passage is a 'mise en abyme' of the whole book. How do the following elements echo the general themes of the novel?

- a. the fake election of Napoleon:

.....

- ### c. Moses's fairy tale:

d. Moses as a parasite:.....



TRANSLATION LAB

- Observe this sentence: "He would perch on a stump, flap his black wings, and talk by the hour to anyone who would listen." (I.11-12)

- ### 1. Comment on the use of 'would'.

.....
.....

- 2. Translate the sentence into French.**

.....
.....

-

3. What verb form did you use?

- b** Now translate the passage from l.9 "In the middle of summer" to l.16 "growing on the hedges", paying attention to the verb forms.

.....

Focus on... "The opiate of the masses"

"Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, just as it is the spirit of a species situation. It is the opiate of the masses."

This most famous quotation is taken from *A Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right* by Karl Marx. Organised religion is defined by Marx as a means to divert people from the reality of their state of oppression by filling them with false hopes and illusory fantasies. In other words, religion is described as preventing people from rebelling against the system they are victims of.

Check your understanding

a Tick real or fake.

1. Animal Farm is a
2. The documents about Snowball are
3. The wounds on his back are
4. The pigs believe Moses's imaginary land is
5. The animals' hopes for a better life are

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> real | <input type="checkbox"/> fake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> real | <input type="checkbox"/> fake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> real | <input type="checkbox"/> fake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> real | <input type="checkbox"/> fake |
| <input type="checkbox"/> real | <input type="checkbox"/> fake |

b Give three references to Man's world in the text.

YOUR TASK

Read on to Chapter 10 and find out why the animals feel their world has been 'turned upside-down'. Focus on the scene from 'It was just after the sheep returned' to 'some animals are more equal than others'. Write this scene from Clover's point of view.

STEP 1. List the elements Clover is likely to refer to.

STEP 2. Describe what she would do and say.

STEP 3. Underline the irony of the situation by contrasting her feelings to those of the pigs.

READ ON

Read on for the extract on the next page. Focus on the liberties the pigs take with the Seven Commandments. How is this expressed through the use of language?

Back to Manor Farm

► Find out about the characters in the last scene and where they are. Who is the text focused on? What are the farm animals reduced to?

There was enthusiastic cheering and stamping of feet. Napoleon was so gratified that he left his place and came round the table to clink his mug against Mr. Pilkington's before emptying it. When the cheering had died down, Napoleon, who had remained on his feet, intimated that he too had a few words to say.

- 5 Like all of Napoleon's speeches, it was short and to the point. He too, he said, was happy that the period of misunderstanding was at an end. For a long time there had been rumours — circulated, he had reason to think, by some malignant enemy — that there was something subversive and even revolutionary in the outlook of himself and his colleagues. They had been credited with attempting to stir up rebellion among the animals on neighbouring farms. Nothing could be further from the truth!
- 10 Their sole wish, now and in the past, was to live at peace and in normal business relations with their neighbours. This farm which he had the honour to control, he added, was a co-operative enterprise. The title-deeds, which were in his own possession, were owned by the pigs jointly.

He did not believe, he said, that any of the old suspicions still lingered, but certain changes had been made recently in the routine of the farm which should have the effect of promoting confidence still further. Hitherto¹ the animals on the farm had had a rather foolish custom of addressing one another as "Comrade." This was to be suppressed. There had also been a very strange custom, whose origin was unknown, of marching every Sunday morning past a boar's skull² which was nailed to a post in the garden. This, too, would be suppressed, and the skull had already been buried. His visitors might have observed, too, the green flag which flew from the masthead. If so, they would perhaps have noted that

- 20 the white hoof and horn with which it had previously been marked had now been removed. It would be a plain green flag from now onwards.

He had only one criticism, he said, to make of Mr. Pilkington's excellent and neighbourly speech. Mr. Pilkington had referred throughout to "Animal Farm." He could not of course know — for he, Napoleon, was only now for the first time announcing it — that the name "Animal Farm" had been abolished.

- 25 Henceforward the farm was to be known as "The Manor Farm"— which, he believed, was its correct and original name.

.../...

¹ until now ² crâne d'un cochon

NOTE BOX

"Gentlemen," concluded Napoleon, "I will give you the same toast as before, but in a different form. Fill your glasses to the brim. Gentlemen, here is my toast: To the prosperity of The Manor Farm!"

There was the same hearty cheering as before, and the mugs were emptied to the dregs. But as the animals outside gazed at the scene, it seemed to them that some strange thing was happening. What was it that had altered in the faces of the pigs? Clover's old dim eyes flitted from one face to another. Some of them had five chins¹, some had four, some had three. But what was it that seemed to be melting and changing? Then, the applause having come to an end, the company took up their cards and continued the game that had been interrupted, and the animals crept silently away.

But they had not gone twenty yards when they stopped short. An uproar of voices was coming from the farmhouse. They rushed back and looked through the window again. Yes, a violent quarrel was in progress. There were shoutings, bangings on the table, sharp suspicious glances, furious denials. The source of the trouble appeared to be that Napoleon and Mr. Pilkington had each played an ace of spades simultaneously.

Twelve voices were shouting in anger, and they were all alike. No question, now, what had happened to the faces of the pigs. The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.

1. mention

1 Comment on the ways in which the pigs are behaving like humans.

2 What is Napoleon's tone in his speech? What is his objective?

3 Find out how Napoleon has turned Animal Farm back into Manor Farm. What is the purpose of such changes?

4 Ownership of the farm =
Purpose =

5 Spirit of revolution =
Purpose =

6 Customs / symbols =
Purpose =

7 Name of the farm =
Purpose =

8 Purpose =

PART 11

4 From whose point of view is the last part of the scene related? What effect does it have on the reader?

5 Explain how the irony of the ending is expressed in the text. (See page 23.)

Pick out examples of:

a. verbal irony:

b. irony of situation:

c. tragic irony:

6 Check your understanding

a. Tick the name(s) of the character(s) concerned.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Napoleon | <input type="checkbox"/> Mr Pilkington made a speech. |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> The pigs | <input type="checkbox"/> The animals own the title-deeds of the farm. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Napoleon | <input type="checkbox"/> The animals decided to change the flag. |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr Pilkington | <input type="checkbox"/> Napoleon calls the farm Animal Farm. |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr Pilkington | <input type="checkbox"/> Napoleon cheated at the game of cards. |

b. Give three common points between Napoleon and the farmers.

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YOUR TASK



Write a book review in your notebook entitled 'A fairy story without a happy ending?' about *Animal Farm*.

STEP 1. Recap the reasons why Orwell called his book a "fairy tale".

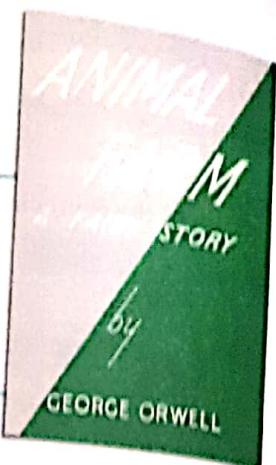
STEP 2. Sum up the ending briefly in your own words.

STEP 3. Give your opinion about the way Orwell used elements from fairy tales to tell his story.

AROUND THE BOOK

FROM MANUSCRIPT TO BOOK

George Orwell finished writing *Animal Farm* in 1944, but he struggled to find a publisher. Many didn't want to publish a book that criticised and satirised Stalin's Soviet Union, one of Britain's allies in World War II. It was eventually published on 17 August 1945, two days after the war ended. One of the publishers who rejected *Animal Farm* was poet T.S. Eliot (the director of publishing company Faber & Faber).



“I think my own dissatisfaction with this
apologue is that the effect is simply one
of negation. It ought to excite some
sympathy with what the author wants,
as well as sympathy with his objections
to something [...]. Your pigs are far
more intelligent than the other animals,
and therefore the best qualified to run
the farm [...] so that what was needed,
was not more communism but more
public-spirited pigs.”

T.S. Eliot

- 1** Read the letter on the British Library site and explain in your own words what T.S. Eliot admires about George Orwell.

.....
.....
.....
.....

- 2** Comment on his critique of *Animal Farm*. Do you agree with his arguments?

.....
.....
.....

FROM BOOK TO BOOK

Brazilian illustrator Odyr adapted *Animal Farm* into a graphic novel in 2019.



Site

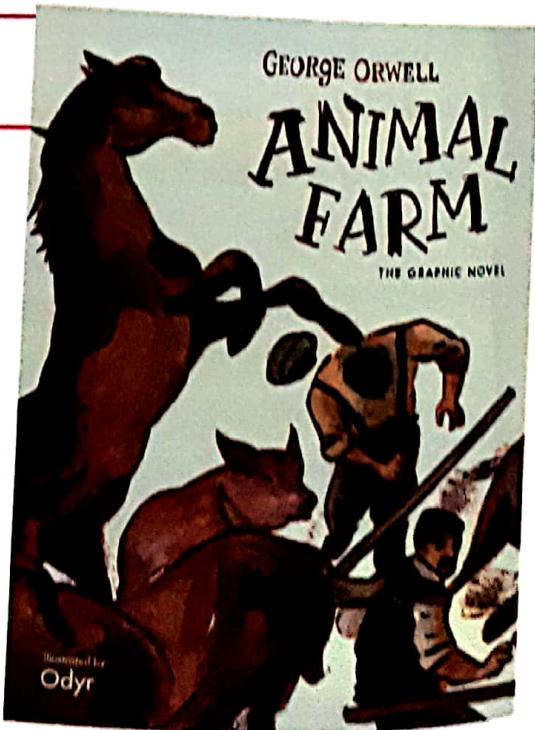
Flip through the pages of the graphic novel. Do you think that such a version of Orwell's book is in keeping with the writer's intentions?

.....
.....
.....
.....

GOING FURTHER

Site

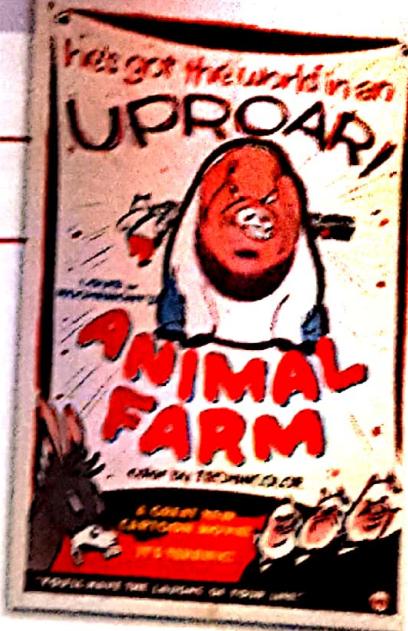
British rock band Pink Floyd's 1977 album *Animals* was inspired by *Animal Farm* but updated for the 1970s. Read about it and listen to extracts.



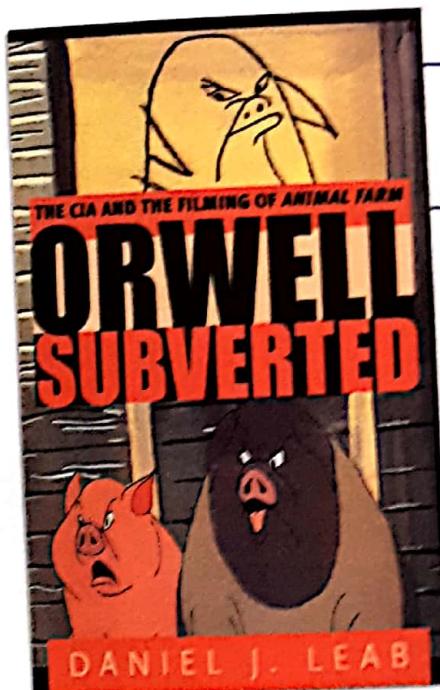
FROM BOOK TO FILM

Animal Farm was the first ever feature-length animated film made in Britain. It was created by husband and wife John Halas and Joy Batchelor in 1954.

- 1 Focus on the film poster: what message does it convey?



- 2 Watch the trailer. How does the film version differ from the book? How can you explain such differences?



BEHIND THE FILM

The 1954 animated film of Animal Farm was at least partly funded by the U.S. intelligence service, the CIA, which no doubt explains the change of ending.

You can read the full article by Martin Chilton.



- 1 Why would the CIA be interested in having the film version made?

- 2 In what way does the film's ending change the message of Animal Farm?

"In the optimistic CIA-approved ending to the film, the (non-pig) animals ask for help from the outside. They are helped, enabling them to crush the evil Stalin ruler.

Some endings are more equal than others, it seems."

*The Daily Telegraph,
Martin Chilton, 2016*

LORD OF THE FLIES

Lord of the Flies (1954) was the first novel by English author William Golding, who went on to win the Nobel Prize for literature. It tells the story of a group of boys who are stranded on an island after a nuclear attack and who attempt to create an organised society. It is a dystopian vision of human nature's tendency to cruelty and violence.

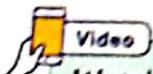
Lord of the Flies was adapted as a film by theatre director Peter Brook in 1963. He used children who had never acted, who improvised the dialogues based on the book while spending a summer on an island.



- 1** Listen to William Golding speaking about his novel. Find out what his story has in common with Orwell's allegorical tale.



- 2** Watch this booktuber summarise the book and read this page from the publisher Faber's site. Imagine why *Lord of the Flies* had been rejected by several publishers.



Watch the booktuber's summary.



Read the web page.



At the end of the novel, the boys are discovered by a British ship. A naval officer asks them what has happened.

"You don't know how many of you there are"
"No, sir."

"I should have thought," said the officer as he visualised the search before him,
"I should have thought that a pack of British boys—you're all British, aren't you?—would have been able to put up a better show than that—I mean—"

"It was like that at first," said Ralph,
"before things—"

He stopped.

"We were together then—"

Lord of the Flies, Chapter 12

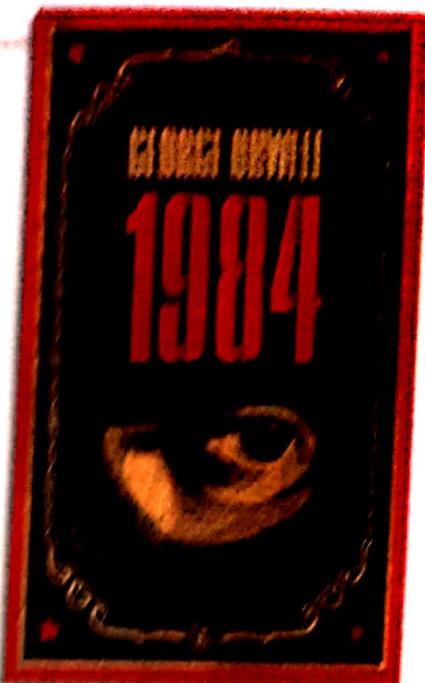
- 3** Read the excerpt and comment on Ralph's answers. What does it reveal about the children's behaviour on the island?

- 4** To what extent can this ending be related to the evolution of the relationships among the animals in *Animal Farm*?

ORWELL IS WATCHING US

Hinston Eighty Four (1984) was Orwell's last novel, and, like *Animal Farm*, it focuses on life in the future when there are three world powers. The Party, Winston Smith, lives in Oceania which is a totalitarian regime ruled by Big Brother. Citizens are constantly monitored through cameras and certain political rebellion has been outlawed. An important political leader, George, disappears, preventing citizens from expressing any form of rebellion, and if they think anything rebellious, that is called a "thoughtcrime".

- 1** Read the first page of *Hinston Eighty Four* on the publisher's site and find out about the oppressive world the main character lives in. Find similarities with the totalitarian regime depicted in *Animal Farm*.



- 2** Use the following definition of rebellion to put into perspective both the animal rebellion against Mr. Jones and their submission to the pigs' authority in *Animal Farm*.

11 The masses never revolt of their own accord, and they never revolt merely because they are oppressed. Indeed, so long as they are not permitted to have standards of comparison, they never even become aware that they are oppressed.

Hinston Eighty Four, Book 2, Chapter 5
(taken from the "table" of resistance to Big Brother)



CHICKEN FARM

The film *Chicken Run* (2005) by British animation company Aardman tells the story of chickens who feel like prisoners on a farm. They already feel held by humans, but when the farmers decide to develop a chicken-powder mixture, they decide they have to escape and survive.

- 1** Watch the trailer and find out what famous film about WWII the film is a parody of.
- 2** Explain why the film has been described as a satire of inhumane farming and human greed.



GOING FURTHER

A British author, Nigel Bryant, has written a sequel to *Animal Farm*, *Manor Farm*. You can read the beginning of his story.

