Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: Animal Farm 5

1. **How did Mollie start behaving as winter drew on?**

**Ans:** As winter drew on, Mollie became more and more troublesome. She was late for work every morning and excused herself by saying that she had overslept, and she complained of mysterious pains, although her appetite was excellent. On every kind of pretext she would run away from work and go to the drinking pool, where she would stand foolishly gazing at her own reﬂection in the water.

1. **Who confronted Mollie? When? Why?**

**Ans:** Clover confronted Mollie one when Mollie strolled blithely into the yard, ﬂirting her long tail and chewing at a stalk of hay. Clover had seen her that morning looking over the hedge that divides Animal Farm from Foxwood. One of Mr. Pilkington’s men was standing on the other side of the hedge and Clover was a long way away. Still she had clearly seen that he was talking to Mollie and Mollie allowed him to stroke her nose.

1. **How did Mollie defend herself? How did Clover spill the beans?**

**Ans:** Mollie started defending herself by saying that he didn’t do anything of the kind and it wasn’t true. While saying this, Mollie began to prance about and paw the ground.Clover asked Mollie to look into her face and give her a word of honour that the man was not stroking her face. Mollie did repeat that it wasn’t true but at the same time she could not look Clover in the face, and the next moment she took to her heels and galloped away into the ﬁeld. After that, Clover went to Mollie’s stall and turned over the straw with her hoof. Hidden under the straw was a little pile of lump sugar and several bunches of ribbon of diﬀerent colours.

1. **What happened after Mollie’s disappearance?**

**Ans:** Three days later Mollie disappeared. For some weeks nothing was known of her whereabouts then the pigeons reported that they had seen her on the other side of Willingdon. She was between the shafts of a smart dogcart painted red and black, which was standing outside a public-house. A fat red-faced man in check breeches and gaiters, who looked like a publican, was stroking her nose and feeding her with sugar. Her coat was newly clipped and she wore a scarlet ribbon round her forelock. She appeared to be enjoying herself, so the pigeons said.

1. **How bad was the weather in January? Where were the meetings held?**

**Ans:** In January there came bitterly hard weather. The earth was like iron, and nothing could be done in the ﬁelds. Many meetings were held in the big barn, and the pigs occupied themselves with planning out the work of the coming season.

1. **What had come to be accepted by the other animals on the farm?**

**Ans:** It had come to be accepted that the pigs, who were manifestly cleverer than the other animals, should decide all questions of farm policy, though their decisions had to be ratiﬁed by a majority vote. This arrangement would have worked well enough if it had not been for the disputes between Snowball and Napoleon.

1. **How was the association between Snowball and Napoleon?**

**Ans:** Snowball and Napoleon disagreed at every point where disagreement was possible. If one of them suggested sowing a bigger acreage with barley, the other was certain to demand a bigger acreage of oats, and if one of them said that such and such a ﬁeld was just right for cabbages, the other would declare that it was useless for anything except roots. Each had his own following, and there were some violent debates.

1. **What happened at the meetings between Snowball and Napoleon? What would the sheep do?**

**Ans:** At the Meetings Snowball often won over the majority by his brilliant speeches, but Napoleon was better at canvassing support for himself in between times. He was especially successful with the sheep. Of late the sheep had taken to bleating ‘Four legs good, two legs bad’ both in and out of season, and they often interrupted the Meeting with this. It was noticed that they were especially liable to break into ‘Four legs good, two legs bad’ at crucial moments in Snowball’s speeches.

1. **How different were Snowball and Napoleon in scheming plans?**

**Ans:** Snowball had made a close study of some back numbers of the Farmer and Stockbreeder which he had found in the farmhouse, and was full of plans for innovations and improvements. He talked learnedly about ﬁeld drains, silage, and basic slag, and had worked out a complicated scheme for all the animals to drop their dung directly in the ﬁelds, at a diﬀerent spot every day, to save the labour of cartage. Napoleon produced no schemes of his own, but said quietly that Snowball’s would come to nothing, and seemed to be biding his time.

1. **Where was windmill supposed to be made? How was it finalised?**

**Ans:** In the long pasture, not far from the farm buildings, there was a small knoll which was the highest point on the farm. After surveying the ground, Snowball declared that this was just the place for a windmill.

1. **How was windmill going to make animals’ lives better? How did the animals react to the idea?**

**Ans:** A windmill which could be made to operate a dynamo and supply the farm with electrical power. This would light the stalls and warm them in winter, and would also run a circular saw, a chaﬀ cutter, a mangel-slicer, and an electric milking machine. The animals had never heard of anything of this kind before and they listened in astonishment while Snowball conjured up pictures of fantastic machines which would do their work for them while they grazed at their ease in the ﬁelds or improved their minds with reading and conversation.

1. **Give details about Snowball’s preparation for the windmill.**

**Ans:** The mechanical details came mostly from three books which had belonged to Mr Jones — **One Thousand Useful Things to Do About the House, Every Man His Own Bricklayer,** and **Electricity for Beginners**. Snowball used as his study a shed which had once been used for incubators and had a smooth wooden ﬂoor, suitable for drawing on. He was closeted there for hours at a time. With his books held open by a stone, and with a piece of chalk gripped between the knuckles of his trotter, he would move rapidly to and fro, drawing in line after line and uttering little whimpers of excitement. Gradually the plans grew into a complicated mass of cranks and cog-wheels, covering more than half the ﬂoor, which the other animals found completely unintelligible but very impressive.

1. **How did the other animals react to the plans of windmill?**

**Ans**: All animals came to look at Snowball’s drawings at least once a day. Even the hens and ducks came, and were at pains not to tread on the chalk marks. Only Napoleon held aloof. He had declared himself against the windmill from the start.

1. **What did Napoleon do after he examined the plans?**

**Ans:** One day, Napoleon arrived unexpectedly to examine the plans. He walked heavily round the shed, looked closely at every detail of the plans and snuﬀed at them once or twice, then stood for a little while contemplating them out of the corner of his eye; then suddenly he lifted his leg, urinated over the plans, and walked out without uttering a word.

1. **How was the whole farm divided on the subject of the windmill?**

**Ans:** The whole farm was deeply divided on the subject of the windmill. Snowball did not deny that to build it would be a diﬃcult business. Stone would have to be carried and built up into walls, then the sails would have to be made and after that there would be need for dynamos and cables. (How these were to be procured, Snowball did not say.) But he maintained that it could all be done in a year. And thereafter, he declared, so much labour would be saved that the animals would only need to work three days a week. Napoleon, on the other hand, argued that the great need of the moment was to increase food production and that if they wasted time on the windmill they would all starve to death. The animals formed themselves into two factions under the slogan, ‘Vote for Snowball and the three-day week’ and ‘Vote for Napoleon and the full manger.’

1. **Who was neutral regarding the windmill? Why?**

**Ans:** Benjamin was the only animal who did not side with either faction. He refused to believe either that food would become more plentiful or that the windmill would save work. Windmill or no windmill, he said, life would go on as it had always gone on — that is, badly.

1. **Which other question arose on the farm? Why?**

**Ans:** Apart from the disputes over the windmill, there was the question of the defence of the farm. It was fully realised that though the human beings had been defeated in the Battle of the Cowshed they might make another and more determined attempt to recapture the farm and reinstate Mr. Jones. They had all the more reason for doing so because the news of their defeat had spread across the countryside and made the animals on the neighbouring farms more restive than ever.

1. **Why were Snowball and Napoleon again in disagreement?**

**Ans:** According to Napoleon, what the animals must do was to procure ﬁrearms and train themselves in the use of them. According to Snowball, they must send out more and more pigeons and stir up rebellion among the animals on the other farms. The one argued that if they could not defend themselves they were bound to be conquered, the other argued that if rebellions happened everywhere they would have no need to defend themselves.

1. **How did the other animals react to their second disagreement?**

**Ans:** The animals listened ﬁrst to Napoleon, then to Snowball, and could not make up their minds which was right; indeed, they always found themselves in agreement with the one who was speaking at the moment.

1. **What happened after Snowball’s windmill plans were complete?**

**Ans:** The question of whether or not to begin work on the windmill was to be put to the vote. When the animals had assembled in the big barn, Snowball stood up and, though occasionally interrupted by bleating from the sheep, set forth his reasons for advocating the building of the windmill. Then Napoleon stood up to reply. He said very quietly that the windmill was nonsense and that he advised nobody to vote for it, and promptly sat down again; he had spoken for barely thirty seconds, and seemed almost indiﬀerent as to the eﬀect he produced. At this Snowball sprang to his feet, and shouting down the sheep who had begun bleating again, broke into a passionate appeal in favour of the windmill.

1. **How did Snowball paint the picture of Animal Farm in front of the other animals?**

**Ans:** In glowing sentences he painted a picture of Animal Farm as it might be when sordid labour was lifted from the animals’ backs. His imagination had now run far beyond chaﬀ-cutters and turnip-slicers. Electricity, he said, could operate threshing machines, ploughs, harrows, rollers, and reapers and binders, besides supplying every stall with its own electric light, hot and cold water, and an electric heater.

1. **What did Napoleon do when there was no doubt as to which way the vote would go? Who came after Snowball?**

**Ans:** Napoleon stood up and, casting a peculiar sidelong look at Snowball, uttered a high-pitched whimper of a kind no one had ever heard him utter before. Nine enormous dogs wearing brass-studded collars came bounding into the barn who dashed straight for Snowball.

1. **Describe the chase between the nine dogs and Snowball.**

**Ans:** When Napoleon uttered a high-pitched whimper of a kind that no one had ever heard of, nine enormous dogs dashed straight for Snowball, who only sprang from his place just in time to escape their snapping jaws. In a moment he was out of the door and they were after him.

Snowball was racing across the long pasture that led to the road. He was running as only a pig can run, but the dogs were close on his heels. Suddenly he slipped and it seemed certain that they had him. Then he was up again, running faster than ever, then the dogs were gaining on him again. One of them all but closed his jaws on Snowball’s tail, but Snowball whisked it free just in time. Then he put on an extra spurt and, with a few inches to spare, slipped through a hole in the hedge and was seen no more.

1. **How did the animals react to the chase between the nine dogs and Snowball?**

**Ans:** Initially, the animals were too amazed and frightened to speak, all the animals crowded through the door to watch the chase. After Snowball slipped through a hole in the hedge and was seen no more, the animals were silent and terrified and they crept back into the barn.

1. **Which confusion arose among the animals regarding the nine dogs? How was it solved?**

**Ans:** Confusion arose among the animals as no one had been able to imagine where these creatures came from. Later the animals understood that the dogs were the puppies which Napoleon had taken away from their mothers and reared privately.

1. **Describe the nine dogs.**

**Ans:** The nine dogs were the same puppies which Napoleon had taken away from their mothers and reared privately.Those enormous dogs wore brass-studded collars**.** Though not yet full-grown, they were huge dogs, and as ﬁerce-looking as wolves. They kept close to Napoleon. It was noticed that they wagged their tails to him in the same way as the other dogs had been used to do to Mr Jones.

1. **What did Napoleon announce? What changes had he made in functioning of the Animal Farm?**

**Ans:** Napoleon announced that from now on the Sunday-morning Meetings would come to an end. They were unnecessary, he said, and wasted time. In future all questions relating to the working of the farm would be settled by a special committee of pigs, presided over by him. These would meet in private and afterwards communicate their decisions to the others. The animals would still assemble on Sunday mornings to salute the ﬂag, sing Beasts of England, and receive their orders for the week; but there would be no more debates.

1. **What did the animals do after the announcement was made by Napoleon?**

**Ans:** After the announcement was made, several of the animals felt like protesting if they could have found the right arguments. Even Boxer was vaguely troubled. He set his ears back, shook his forelock several times, and tried hard to marshal his thoughts; but in the end he could not think of anything to say. Four young porkers in the front row uttered shrill squeals of disapproval, and all four of them sprang to their feet and began speaking at once.

1. **How were the animals quietened?**

**Ans:** The dogs who were sitting round Napoleon let out deep, menacing growls, and the pigs fell silent and sat down again. Then the sheep broke out into a tremendous bleating of ‘Four legs good, two legs bad!’ which went on for nearly a quarter of an hour and put an end to any chance of discussion.

1. **Why was Squealer sent round the farm? What did he tell the animals?**

**Ans:** Squealer was sent round the farm to explain the new arrangement to the others. He told the animals that Napoleon had made a sacrifice by taking extra labour on himself. He tells the animals that leadership is not pleasure. On the other hand it is a deep and heavy responsibility and Napoleon considers every animal as equal. He furthers emphasizes that Napoleon would like if animals take their decisions but he feared that they would take wrong decisions and then all the animals would be in a worse situation.

1. **How did Squealer prove that Snowball was no better than a criminal?**

**Ans:** When somebody pointed out that Snowball fought bravely at the Battle of Cowshed, Squealer opposed by saying that loyalty and obedience were more important. He believed personally that the time will come when we shall ﬁnd that Snowball’s part in it was much exaggerated. He highlighted that discipline is the watchword and if one small wrong step is taken Jones would be back which surely nobody wanted.

1. **Why was the argument, that Squealer had put forward, unanswerable? What was Boxer’s opinion later about Napoleon?**

**Ans:** Squealer put forward the argument thatJones would be back and this argument was not answerable as surely the animals did not want Jones back; even if that means to stop holding debates on Sunday mornings. Boxer, who had now had time to think things over, voiced the general feeling by saying that if Comrade Napoleon says it, it must be right. Later he adopted the maxim that Napoleon was always right and his private motto that he would work harder.

1. **What happened after the weather had broken?**

**Ans:** After the weather had broken,the spring ploughing had begun. The shed where Snowball had drawn his plans of the windmill had been shut up and it was assumed that the plans had been rubbed oﬀ the ﬂoor.

1. **What happened on every Sunday then? What was done to Old Major’s skull?**

**Ans:** Every Sunday morning at ten o’clock the animals assembled in the big barn to receive their orders for the week. The skull of old Major, now clean of ﬂesh, had been disinterred from the orchard and set up on a stump at the foot of the ﬂagstaﬀ, beside the gun.

1. **How was the event after hoisting the flag different from earlier one?**

**Ans:** Earlier the animals would sit all together but it no longer happened. After the hoisting of the ﬂag, the animals were required to ﬁle past the skull in a reverent manner before entering the barn.

1. **Mention the positions in which all the animals would sit for the Meeting? What would Napoleon read out?**

**Ans:**  Napoleon, with Squealer and another pig named Minimus who had a remarkable gift for composing songs and poems, sat on the front of the raised platform, with the nine young dogs forming a semicircle round them, and the other pigs sitting behind. The rest of the animals sat facing them in the main body of the barn. Napoleon read out the orders for the week in a gruﬀ soldierly style, and after a single singing of Beasts of England, all the animals dispersed.

1. **Which announcement was done on the third Sunday after Snowball’s expulsion?**

**Ans:**  On the third Sunday after Snowball’s expulsion, the animals were somewhat surprised to hear Napoleon announce that the windmill was to be built after all. He did not give any reason for having changed his mind, but merely warned the animals that this extra task would mean very hard work, it might even be necessary to reduce their rations. The plans, however, had all been prepared, down to the last detail. A special committee of pigs had been at work upon them for the past three weeks. The building of the windmill, with various other improvements, was expected to take two years.

1. **What did Squealer explain on that third Sunday?**

**Ans:** That evening Squealer explained privately to the other animals that Napoleon had never in reality been opposed to the windmill. On the contrary, it was he who had advocated it in the beginning, and the plan which Snowball had drawn on the ﬂoor of the incubator shed had actually been stolen from among Napoleon’s papers. The windmill was, in fact, Napoleon’s own creation.

1. **How did the animals react to Squealer’s explanation with respect to Napoleon’s support of Windmill?**

**Ans:** On knowing that Napoleon is supporting Windmill,one of the animals asked why then he had spoken so strongly against it. Squealer looked extremely sly and said that it was Comrade Squealer’s shrewd move to show that he was against windmill.

1. **How did Squealer justify Napolean’s strategy to oppose Snowball and his plan?**

**Ans:** Squealer said that opposing Snowball was kind of a manoeuvre to get rid of him. According to him, Snowball was a dangerous character and a bad inﬂuence. He felt that as Snowball was out of the way, the plan could go forward without his interference. Squealer called this way as tactics.

1. **How did the animals react to Squealer’s justification?**

**Ans:** The animals were not certain what the word ‘tactics’ meant, but Squealer spoke so persuasively, and the three dogs who happened to be with him growled so threateningly, that they accepted his explanation without further questions.