Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: Animal Farm (Ch 10)

1. Was the windmill finally completed? What was it used for? What dream was still being shown to the animals regarding the windmill?

Ans: Yes the windmill was finally completed. The wind- mill had been successfully completed at last, and the farm possessed a threshing machine and a hay elevator of its own, and various new buildings had been added to it. The windmill, however, had not after all been used for generating electrical power. It was used for milling corn, and brought in a handsome money profit.

1. What did the animals never cease to marvel at? Why were they proud?

Ans: They were still the only farm in the whole county- in all England!- owned and operated by animals.

1. Describe the spectacle of pigs walking on their hind legs

Ans: A little awkwardly, as though not quite used to supporting his considerable bulk in that position, but with perfect balance, he was strolling across the yard. And a moment later, out from the door of the farmhouse came a long file of pigs, all walking on their hind legs. Some did it better than others, one or two were even a trifle unsteady and looked as though they would have liked the support of a stick, but every one of them made his way right round the yard successfully.

1. Who was invited to the animal farm? Why? What was their initial reaction?

Ans: A week later, in the afternoon, a number of dogcarts drove up to the farm.

A deputation of neighbouring farmers had been invited to make a tour of inspection. They were shown all over the farm, and expressed great admiration for everything they saw, especially the windmill.

1. What aspects of the farm were praised by Pilkington?

Ans: Not only the most up-to-date methods, but a discipline and an orderliness which should be an example to all farmers everywhere. He believed that he was right in saying that the lower animals on Animal Farm did more work and received less food than any animals in the county. Indeed, he and his fellow-visitors today had observed many features which they intended to introduce on their own farms immediately.

1. What was the significance of The Rebellion for the new animals on the farm?

Ans: Many animals had been born to whom the Rebellion was only a dim tradition, passed on by word of mouth, and others had been bought who had never heard mention of such a thing before their arrival. The farm possessed three horses now besides Clover. They were fine upstanding beasts, willing workers and good comrades, but very stupid. None of them proved able to learn the alphabet beyond the letter B.

They accepted everything that they were told about the Rebellion and the principles of Animalism, especially from Clover, for whom they had an almost filial respect; but it was doubtful whether they understood very much of it.

1. What work done by pigs did Squealer claim that the other animals would not understand?

Ans: For example, Squealer told them that the pigs had to expend enormous labours every day upon mysterious things called `files,' `reports,' `minutes,' and `memoranda.' These were large sheets of paper which had to be closely covered with writing, and as soon as they were so covered, they were burnt in the furnace.

1. Why had Squealer taken the sheep away for, to the ground overgrown with birch saplings?

Ans: One day in early summer Squealer ordered the sheep to follow him, and led them out to a piece of waste ground at the other end of the farm, which had become overgrown with birch saplings. The sheep spent the whole day there browsing at the leaves under Squealer's supervision. In the evening he returned to the farmhouse himself, but, as it was warm weather, told the sheep to stay where they were. It ended by their remaining there for a whole week, during which time the other animals saw nothing of them. Squealer was with them for the greater part of every day. He was, he said, teaching them to sing a new song for which privacy was needed.

1. Summarise the speech of Napoleon

Ans: 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! 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 stiff further. Hitherto 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 skull 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 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. Henceforward the farm was to be known as `The Manor Farm' | which, he believed, was its correct and original name.

1. What strange thing was experienced by the animals at the end of the story?

Ans: 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 chins, 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.