



Plot Summary

In the novella, Animal Farm, the animals get fed up of their master, Farmer Jones, so they kick him out. Once they are free of the **tyrant** Jones, life on the farm is good for a while and there is hope for a happier future of less work, better education and more food. However, trouble brews as the pigs, Napoleon and Snowball, fight for the hearts and minds of the other animals on the farm. Napoleon seizes power by force and ends up exploiting the animals just as Farmer Jones had done. The novel ends with the pigs behaving and even dressing like the humans the animals tried to get rid of in the first place.

Context

George Orwell was outspoken in his support of socialism – he wanted everyone to be equal. He spoke out against social injustice and totalitarianism. Orwell wrote and published Animal Farm in 1945. This novel is an **allegory** - even though it is set on a farm and stars a cast of farm animals, **it reflects the events of the Russian revolution of 1917**. The animals are all clever representations of Russian politicians, voters and workers. Orwell used the novel to make his opinions on Russian leaders heard and how **power should not be abused**.

Key Characters

Old Major – the pig who inspires 'Animalism'. Based on Karl Marx and Vladimir Lenin.

Napoleon – the pig who ends up leading the farm. Based on Joseph Stalin.

Snowball – one of the other leading pigs. Based on Leon Trotsky.

Squealer – the persuasive pig. Based on Soviet propaganda.

Boxer – a hard-working horse. Based on the Russian working class.

Moses – the raven who tempts the animals with Sugarcandy Mountain. Based on the church.

Vocabulary

1. **Majestic** - Beautiful, powerful, or causing great admiration and respect.
2. **Morose** - Very serious, unhappy, and unwilling to speak or smile.
3. **Toiled** - To work very hard at something that is often quite difficult.
4. **Idle** - To be inactive (not working or not being used).
5. **Vivacious** - To be lively, enthusiastic, and animated.
6. **Primitive** - Seeming to come from an early time in the ancient past. OR Very simple and basic - made or done in a way that is not modern.
7. **Liberal** - Respecting and allowing many different types of beliefs or behaviour / open to new ideas.
8. **Malignant** - Very evil / harmful.
9. **Imperishable** - Lasting forever or never becoming weaker with age.
10. **Eloquent** - Fluent or persuasive in speaking or writing.

Subject Terminology

Allegory – An allegory is a story with a deeper meaning. There is often a social message attached to the deeper meaning.

Collective pronouns – Words such as 'we', 'us', and 'ours' which link speaker and audience

Hyperbole – Deliberate exaggeration for effect.

Rhetorical question – A question which does not require an answer.

Anthropomorphism - giving the characteristics of humans to an animal, a god or an inanimate thing. E.G. Mickey Mouse.

Symbolism - the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities.



Before you start analysing or writing, think about the TAP!

Type – what type of writing are you being asked to write/analyse?

Audience – who are you writing for? Who is the writer's intended audience?

Purpose – what are you trying to achieve? Is the writer trying to persuade, argue, advise, or inform?

Types:	Purpose:
Article	Persuade
Leaflet	Advise
Letter	Inform
Review	Argue
Speech	

Key Vocabulary:

Summarising - *giving a brief statement of the main points of a text.*

Viewpoint/Perspective - *a particular attitude towards or way of regarding something / a point of view.*

Writers' Methods:

D – Direct Address

A – Alliteration / Anecdote

F – Facts

O – Opinions

R – Repetition / Rhetorical Question

E – Exaggeration / Emotive Language

S – Statistics

T – Tripling (Rule of Three)

Speech

- Open with a welcome/greeting – e.g. 'Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen' or 'Fellow classmates'. Outline what the speech will be about: 'I will talk to you about...'
- Make 3/4 key points and expand on them
- Conclusion to summarise ideas. End by acknowledging the audience: 'Thank you for listening.'

Article

- Headline and Strapline
- Include who, what, where, when, how and why?

Leaflet

- Present information so it is easy to find using headings and sub-headings

Letter

- Address and date in the top right of the page
- Address of the person you are writing to on the left
- Dear Mrs Fletcher = yours sincerely or Dear Sir/Madam. = yours faithfully
- Short introductory paragraph
- 3-4 middle paragraphs
- Concluding paragraph summarising ideas.

5 + 1 Non-Fiction Writing Structure

P1: Imagine... Worst-case scenario first sentence - hyperbolic. Present the problem
BBC news has recently reported '_____'.
P2: Evidence of the problem. Statistics and survey.

P3: Consequences if the problem is not solved. Expert opinion – gives the statement or contradicts the statement. One month, six months, one year.
ONE SENTENCE PARAGRAPH.

P4: Solution to the problem. Compare to a country which does not have this problem.

P5: Imagine... Best-case scenario.

Analysing Non-Fiction Texts:

What? What has the writer done? *What is the writer's viewpoint? What evidence tells you that?*

How? How has the writer done it? *How has the writer presented their viewpoints? How do we know this? What methods have they used?*

Why? Why has the writer used these methods? *What is the effect? Why is the writer presenting their viewpoints in this way? What is their purpose/intention/aim?*

Comparative Connectives: However, whereas, contrastingly, alternatively, similarly, likewise, on the other hand.