

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT FRESHMEN ENGLISH I ALL LEVELS

Animal Farm

1. Read the novel *Animal Farm* by George Orwell.
An online version of the novel is hyperlinked below.
http://www.george-orwell.org/Animal_Farm/
2. Review all questions under the heading of *Animal Farm Study Guide Questions*.
3. Questions do not need to be handed in for a grade; they are simply here to guide your reading.
4. Please bring your copy of the novel to class on the first day that class meets if you have a book.
5. A test will be administered the first week of class to assess the comprehension of this material.

Animal Farm Study Guide Questions:

Chapter 1

1. List all of the characters with a brief description.
2. Why does Major call a meeting?
3. What does Major foresee?
4. Who is the only real enemy of the animals and why?
5. What is the significance of “Beasts of England”?
6. What kind of person is Mr. Jones?
7. What is the setting of the novel?

Chapter 2

1. Which three animals become leaders?
2. What is the importance of Moses’ tales of Sugarcandy Mountain?
3. Who are the hardest workers?
4. Why does the management of Manor Farm disintegrate?
5. What precipitates the uprising?
6. What actions do the animals take immediately following the humans’ departure, and why do they do these things?
7. To what end is the farmhouse preserved as a museum?
8. What are the seven commandments designed to do?
9. What happened to the cows’ milk, and how does the incident hint of what is to come?

Chapter 3

1. Initially, how does life change on Animal Farm?
2. Which animals shirk (brush-off) their duties?
3. Why does Benjamin reserve judgment until later?
4. What activities take place on Sunday?
5. What is the symbolism of the flag?
6. Why does Snowball organize Animal Committees?
7. Why does Napoleon feel education of the young is important?
8. List the animals by intelligence.
9. What commandment has been broken by the end of this chapter?

Chapter 4

1. What is the job of the pigeons?
2. Describe the two adjoining farms and farmers.
3. What effect did the news of the rebellion have on humans and other farm animals?
4. What battle tactics did Snowball employ and from whom did he learn them?
5. Why is Boxer upset?
6. Describe the victory celebration for the Battle of the Cowshed.

Chapter 5

1. Who defects from Animal Farm and why?
2. What characterizes Snowball’s approach to farm management?
3. What tactics does Napoleon use to interfere with Snowball’s leadership?
4. What does the windmill symbolize?
5. Explain the significance of Napoleon’s “soiling” plans for the windmill.
6. Who remains aloof from taking sides over the windmill issue?
7. Contrast the two pigs’ views on taking defense measures?
8. How is power shifted from animal masses to the pigs?

9. What arguments does Squealer use to persuade animals to obey Napoleon?
10. What is the new Sunday ritual?
11. Who are the new leaders?
12. How does Squealer revise history by the chapter's end?

Chapter 6

1. How has life on Animal Farm worsened?
2. Describe adaptations the animals made in farming and building?
3. Describe Mr. Whymper and his connection to Animal Farm.
4. What written commandment do the pigs break, and how do they justify it?
5. What actually happened to the windmill, and what story is circulated?
6. What commandment is broken by Napoleon's plans for Snowball?

Chapter 7

1. What conditions are causing most of the animals to be depressed?
2. How do the animals fool Mr. Whymper into believing that starvation rumors are false?
3. Why are the hens upset?
4. What do the hens do?
5. Who dies and how?
6. List the mischief Napoleon attributes to Snowball.
7. How does Squealer rewrite animal history?
8. Which animal survives a dog attack?
9. During the purge (government gets rid of suspected enemies, usually by killing them), who confesses and to what crime?
10. Why can't the animals sing "Beasts of England"? Who writes a new song? For whom is the song written?

Chapter 8

1. How has the sixth commandment been changed?
2. How does Napoleon enhance his image as leader?
3. What has been added to the barn wall with the altered commandment?
4. What is Pinkeye's job, and what does this tell us about Napoleon?
5. Why is Napoleon negotiating first with Pilkington and then with Frederick?
6. Who does Frederick fool Napoleon?
7. How does Pilkington abandon him?
8. Describe the Battle of the Windmill.
9. Why is Napoleon sick after the celebration?
10. What is Squealer doing when he has his accident?

Chapter 9

1. What arrangements were made for retiring animals?
2. What special privileges are given to all pigs? What special privileges are given to the piglets?
3. Why is the Spontaneous Demonstration ironic?
4. Why do the pigs allow Moses to return?
5. What happened to Boxer when he became ill, and what story does Squealer tell?
6. What replaced Boxer's banquet?

Chapter 10

1. What changes had occurred over the years with the animals?
2. What was the daily life of the animals like?
3. What jobs did the pigs do?
4. What two changes in pig behavior are the most astonishing to the other animals?
5. What is the remaining commandment?
6. Why does Napoleon change the flag, rituals, and farm name?
7. By the novel's end, why are the pigs indistinguishable from man?