

ANIMAL FARM NOVEL QUESTIONS

Chapter 1 and 2 Questions

1. In what ways are the animals behaving like animals? In what ways are they like humans?
2. Review Old Major's Speech in the barn. Describe its impact on the animals.
3. Why does Old Major say, "All men are enemies, all animals are comrades?" What assumptions about men and animals does this statement reflect?
4. The pigs began leading the other animals in the second chapter. Why were the animals so easily led?
5. Explain why Snowball says to Mollie, "Those ribbons that you are devoted to are the badge of slavery."
6. Examine the Rebellion and its aftermath. Describe the effect on the animals.
7. Review the seven commandments. There is a strong statement implicit in these concerning mankind. What is it?
8. Examine the relationship between Animal-ism and Marxism.

Chapters 3 and 4 Questions

1. How is farm becoming more like a civilized society?
2. Describe the flag for the farm. Analyze the symbolism of it.
3. What foreshadowing is given that Napoleon and Snowball are going into a power struggle?
4. Snowball simplifies the seven commandments. How is the new slogan a good propaganda technique?
5. Explain how the pigs set themselves up to be the elite on the farm?
6. Brainwashing of the animals takes place. Describe Squealer's part in this.
7. How is the Battle of the Cowshed different from the Rebellion?
8. Snowball and Boxer are both decorated after the battle. Explain the emotions of each concerning this.

Chapters 5 and 6 Questions

1. Why is Molly rejected by the other animals?
2. What happens between Snowball and Napoleon over the windmill issue?

3. Compare and contrast the life on the farm under Jone's rule and Napoleon's rule.
4. How has obedience and loyalty come to replace freedom and bravery on the farm?
5. Squealer squelches the animals' arguments about Napoleon's takeover. Describe this technique. Would you consider it propaganda? Explain.
6. Boxers motto is, "I will work harder." Explain how this shapes his character.
7. The windmill is eventually built. How does Napoleon establish credit for this.
8. Napoleon begins changing the laws to suit his needs. Find examples of this and describe how the animals are forced to except these changes.
9. Several euphemisms have been used throughout the novel thus far. Explain what "tactics" means as Napoleon uses it.

Chapters 7 and 8 Questions

1. The economy is collapsing on the farm. How does Napoleon make it seem everything is fine?
2. The hens threaten to thwart Napoleon. What happens to them?
3. How is the memory of Snowball used to keep the animals in line
4. Napoleon feels the need to show cause and effect. He forces four pigs to confess to rebellious attitudes, then he executes them. Explain the meaning of this and how it affects Napoleon's power.
5. Clover is singing Beasts of England after the executions. Why? What does this reveal about Clover?
6. Napoleon abolishes the song. What reason does he give? What is the true reason?
7. Napoleon is systematically lying to the animals. Examine Chapter 8 for evidence of this.
8. How does the poem Comrade Napoleon work to build up Napoleon's image.
9. Compare and contrast the Battle of the Windmill to those of the Rebellion and Battle of the Cowshed.

Chapters 9 and 10 Questions

1. Describe the stated purpose and the real purpose of the Spontaneous Demonstration.
2. Explain Napoleon's purpose in allowing Moses to return to the farm. How is this significant for Napoleon?
3. Boxer is admired by the animals on the farm. Why? What are the animals led to believe about where he is sent when he is ill? Describe Squealer's cover up of this event.

4. Analyze the symbolism of the knacker.
5. Over the course of events, the society within the farm has portioned itself into two classes. What are they and why/how did it form?

Thought Questions

1. Although Moses described life on Sugar Candy Mountain in a positive way, the animals were never encouraged to run away with him. How do you explain this?
2. What is the significance of the song, "Beasts of England?" What purpose did it serve in the Rebellion?
3. When Jones had the farm, the animals were a bit resentful of all the hard work they had to do. Once the animals took over the farm, they worked harder than ever. Why did their resentment vanish?
4. Napoleon is against building the windmill. Why? Why does he change his mind later?
5. Snow and the dogs get into a fight. Explain what prompted this. Why did no other animals step in to break up the fight?
6. Squealer makes a statement about the reason Napoleon has taken over making the decisions on the farm. He says that "sometimes you might make the wrong decisions, comrades, and then where would you be!" Explain the part this philosophy played in life on the farm for the animals.
7. Sometimes a leader has access to more information than his followers. Should he/she then make all the decisions for the followers? Explain.
8. Squealer and his group move into the farmhouse after making an earlier resolution never to inhabit it. How were they able to accomplish this with little fuss?
9. After a period of time, the pigs announced that they would get up an hour later than everyone else. No one complained. Explain.
10. Describe how Napoleon knew that Snowball had destroyed the windmill.
11. Clover does not like the way things are going on the farm, yet she is convinced that things are better than they were when Jones was in charge. Explain.
12. Explain why Boxer works so hard.
13. How does this novel reflect the ideas of utopia and changing ideas of the ideal?