

Year 8 Exam Revision; Animal Farm

Allegory

A story, poem or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a moral or political hidden meaning



Oppression

When a person or group of people who have power use it in a way that is not fair.



Deceitful

To lie to and mislead others.



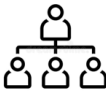
Revolution

The overthrow of a government or social order, in favour of a new system



Hierarchy

A system that organises or ranks things, often according to power or importance.



Tyrant

A person who rules through fear.



Main Characters

Napoleon - The primary antagonist of the novel; a pig who is one of Old Major's disciples, along with Snowball. At first, Napoleon and Snowball work together to develop the ideology of Animalism and spread its ideals throughout all the animals on the farm, but Napoleon proves to have very different goals than Snowball. Where Snowball is relatively idealistic and wants to help others, Napoleon soon proves himself cruel and power hungry. **He represents Stalin**



Snowball - At first, a friend and companion of Napoleon's. Together, Snowball and Napoleon develop the theory of Animalism from the ideas of Old Major's speech, and later they distill these ideas down into the Seven Commandments. Snowball is responsible for generating the maxim "four legs good, two legs bad," which he teaches to the sheep and other less intelligent animals in order to give them some version of the Seven Commandments to repeat. **Snowball represents Leon Trotsky**



Boxer - A huge, gentle carthorse. Boxer isn't especially intelligent—he only learns the first four letters of the alphabet—but Old Major's speech and the equality expressed in the Seven Commandments appeals to his generous nature. Because of this, Boxer becomes one of Napoleon and Snowball's biggest disciples as they attempt to spread the ideals of Animalism to others, as Boxer is capable of making simple, easy to understand arguments to his peers. **Boxer represents the workers**



Benjamin - An old donkey with the critical view that life will always be difficult and painful. Because of this outlook, Benjamin isn't surprised when the pigs corrupt the revolution and transform Animal Farm into a totalitarian state. **Benjamin represents the attitude of many of old people in Russia at that time.**



Squealer - A fat pig who's a skilled orator (speaker). Squealer works closely with Snowball and Napoleon at first—and later, just Napoleon—to interpret or distill what the pigs' plan is for the other animals. Squealer is purportedly able to convince animals of anything, and he's very effective in his job. Sometimes he's effective because of the way he's able to manipulate language; other times, Squealer is effective because the attack dogs accompany him. **Squealer represents**



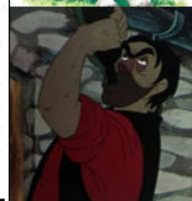
Old Major - A revered old boar who, at the beginning of the novel, gathers the animals together to speak to them about what's wrong with their world. He proposes that humanity is their one true enemy, as people profit off of what animals produce without producing anything themselves—and specifically in the case of Mr. Jones, humans are cruel, unfeeling, and abuse those below them. Old Major's speech forms the basis for Animalism, a theory that Napoleon and Snowball develop in the three months after Old Major's death.



Clover - A gentle, motherly, and powerful carthorse. She supports the revolution, as she naturally takes it upon herself to protect those weaker than she is, and she recognizes this kind of communal spirit echoed in the Seven Commandments. When Animal Farm begins to descend into a totalitarian state under Napoleon, however, Clover becomes dismayed—but she doesn't have the will, personality, or education to resist the pigs. **Clover represents women in the working class.**



Mr Jones - The original owner of Manor Farm. Once a strict and fierce master, in the years before the story begins, Mr. Jones became drunk, careless, and ineffective, as well as casually cruel and arrogant. Mr. Jones's carelessness and cruelty are the final straw for the animals: they instigate a rebellion when he neglects to feed them and then tries to beat them when they break into the stores of grain. **Mr Jones represents the Tsar Nicholas II**



Mollie - A vain, white horse who, prior to the rebellion, pulls Mr. Jones's cart. She loves sugar and wearing pretty ribbons in her mane, and she never cares much for the revolution—supporting it would mean she couldn't have sugar or ribbons. Because of this, she abandons Animal Farm and enters into service for another human only a few months after the rebellion. **Mollie represents the selfish and materialistic middle class.**



The Sheep - Some of the least intelligent animals on Animal Farm. They never become fully literate and can't remember the Seven Commandments, but Snowball teaches them the maxim "Four legs good, two legs bad," which they love and bleat all the time. They're receptive to propaganda and follow orders without questioning anything. **The sheep represent the Russian people who were tricked by Stalin's propaganda.**



Plot

1. Old Major, the prize boar, calls a secret meeting of all the farm animals on Manor Farm. He states that a rebellion against their human master, Mr Jones, will one day come.
2. A cow starts the rebellion by walking into the store-shed. The animals end up chasing Mr Jones off the farm
3. Now they are free, the animals all agree on the Seven Commandments that they will live by. The farm is renamed 'Animal Farm'. There is hope for a better future.
4. The pigs start to order the other animals around and take more food than they should.
5. The animals bravely fight off a human attempt to retake the farm, this becomes known as 'The Battle of the Cowshed'.
6. The animals set to work building a windmill and Napoleon takes charge.
7. Napoleon reduces the rations and rights of the animals and starts breaking the commandments. There is another invasion by the men and the windmill is blown up. Boxer collapses whilst rebuilding it for the second time.
8. Napoleon and the other pigs learn to walk on their hind legs, wear human clothes and carry whips. Despite all their hard work, the animals of the farm are right back to where they began, hungry, scared and exploited by those in charge.

Technique	What is it?
Metaphor	When something is like something else without as or like
Simile	When something is like something else
Rhetorical Question	When a question is asked without an answer
Repetition	Repeating a word or phrase for effect
Emotive Language	Words or phrases that have an emotional or dramatic effect
Direct Address	Speaking directly to an audience - you, we.
Adjectives	Describing words

Year 8 Exam Revision: Poetry



Blessing

Blessing by Imtiaz Dharker

- 'Blessing' is set in the slums of Mumbai, India where the poet lived for a while.
- The slums are the places in the city that have a lot of poverty and where the people do not have access to clean water .
- In the poem, a clean water pipe, that was going to a wealthy part of the city, bursts and clean water comes showering out.
- The people gather round and grab anything they can to collect the water because it is so precious.



Culture

the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.



Gratitude

the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.



Inferior

A feeling being of little or less importance, value, or merit



Superior

showing a consciousness or feeling of being better than or above others



Injustice

A violation of right or of the rights of another : unfairness



Nostalgia

a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past.

Paragraph sentence stems:

The poet presents the theme of..... throughout the poem...

This is shown through the quotation "....." which shows...

The word '.....' shows...

The use of the technique shows...

The poet is trying to show the reader that....

Blessing' by Imtiaz Dharker

*The skin cracks like a pod.
There never is enough water.*

*Imagine the drip of it,
the small splash, echo
in a tin mug,
the voice of a kindly god.*

*Sometimes, the sudden rush
of fortune. The municipal pipe bursts,
silver crashes to the ground
and the flow has found
a roar of tongues. From the huts,
a congregation : every man woman
child for streets around
butts in, with pots,
brass, copper, aluminium,
plastic buckets,
frantic hands,*

*and naked children
screaming in the liquid sun,
their highlights polished to perfection,
flashing light,
as the blessing sings
over their small bones*

Poetry Techniques

Metaphor

Simile

Rhetorical Question

Repetition

Personification

Rhyme

Direct Address/personal pronouns

Semantic Field

Juxtaposition

Adjectives

Hyperbole



2 Scavengers in a Truck

Two Scavengers in a Truck by Lawrence Ferlinghetti

- Two Scavengers in a Truck is set in San Francisco, America.
- At a stop light, two bin men in a truck have stopped next to a wealthy couple in a Mercedes.
- The poet uses this meeting to show the differences between rich and poor in the city, and how judgemental people can be.

Hurricane Hits England by Grace Nicholls

- This poem is set in England when a Hurricane hit the country in 1987 even though hurricanes are very rare in this country.
- The poet, however, is not scared of the hurricane, she is comforted by it. The hurricane reminds Grace of her home country Guyana.

Bullet Points by Jericho Brown

- This poem is set in America and is a form of protest poetry inspired by tragic deaths of Philando Castille and Sandra Bland.
- The poet is trying to draw attention to police brutality, stereotyping and systemic racism towards black people in the present day.



Hurricane Hits England



Bullet Points