

# Animal Farm Summary Reading Questions

**Directions:** As you complete reading each chapter, answer the following text dependent questions in complete sentences. If possible use the ACE format to answer the question, cite evidence, and explain/expand that answer by showing how the text evidence backs up the answer.

## Chapter One

1. According to Old Major, what is the nature of the life of farm animals?
2. According to Old Major, who is the enemy, and why?
3. What does Old major suggest to the animals to rid themselves of the tyranny of human beings?
4. Based on Chapter One, who are the smarter animals? Who are the dumber animals? What makes you think so?

## Chapter Two

5. Which animals have taken it upon themselves to plan the rebellion? Who are the standouts among them?
6. Describe Napoleon and Snowball. How are they similar? How are they different? What is their relationship like?
7. Who leads the animals through the farmhouse? How do the animals react to what they see inside the farmhouse?
8. What do the pigs teach themselves? What is the result of their newly acquired skill?
9. What are the seven commandments? Why are they established? Explain the irony of the seventh one.
10. What problem is introduced at the very end of Chapter two?

## Chapter Three

11. Who becomes a stand-out among the workers? Why? What is his personal motto?
12. Explain the distribution of the apples and the mystery of the milk. Who is sent to explain this? What are his arguments?
13. How does the milk and apples incident correspond with the Seventh Commandment?
14. Explain the quote: "...surely there is no one among you who wants to see Jones come back?" What rhetorical device is Squealer using? Infer what Squealer hopes will be the response by asking such a question.

## Chapter Four

15. Why have the humans come back to Animal Farm?
16. Where/how did Snowball learn his battle techniques?
17. What bothers Boxer about his part in the battle? What is Snowball's response to his concerns?
18. Infer how Snowball's role on the farm might change, now that he is considered a hero.

## Chapter Five

19. Explain Snowball's detailed plan for the placement of the windmill. Where did he get his ideas?
20. What does squealer threaten may happen if the pigs, especially Napoleon, are not given leadership?
21. What very important aspect of Democracy did Napoleon remove from the animal's government? Why is this aspect so important? (Consider how our own government would be different without this.)

## Chapter Six

22. Predict whether trade with humans will become a benefit or a mistake. Give reasons from the text to back your answer.
23. What rhetorical question is Squealer fond of using? Infer why he continues to ask this question?
24. How does Napoleon react to the destruction of the windmill? Who does he blame? Why might he be doing this?

## Chapter Seven

25. What does Squealer now say about Snowball, particularly regarding Mr. Jones and the Battle of the Cowshed?

26. Why do apparently innocent animals confess to being traitors? How do the animals react to the executions?

27. Look back to Chapter One, when "Beasts of England" was introduced. What does the song inspire the animals to do? Now look at the beginning of Minimus's song, "Animal Farm, Animal Farm, Never through me shall thou come to harm." Summarize the message/theme of the song. What does this song inspire the animals to do?

#### **Chapter Eight**

28. Why was the killing of the animals in Chapter Seven "justified"?

29. Describe the scandal involving the sale of the wood-pile. Give your interpretation of the changing stories involving Pilkington and Frederick.

30. How does another Commandment change at the end of this chapter?

#### **Chapter Nine**

31. Why do you think Moses reappears in this chapter?

32. How does Napoleon betray Boxer? Why is this so tragic?

33. Infer how the pigs acquired another case of whiskey?

#### **Chapter Ten**

34. What is the single Commandment? What is the meaning of the word "equal" in this context?

35. What blatant lie about the animal's "sole wish, now and in the past" does Napoleon make in his speech? What is the truth?

36. What do the animals see when they look into the farmhouse window at the end of this chapter? What is the significance of this sighting?

37. What is a theme of *Animal Farm*? Provide evidence from the text and discuss how it supports your answer.