

LAST TERM
The Tempest

Year 9 English
Maximise 1

Year 9 Term 1A: Animal Farm

MAXIMISE
YOUR POTENTIAL

NEXT TERM
The Gothic

Key Characters

Napoleon	Napoleon is a character based on Joseph Stalin – the leader of the communist Soviet Union. He is selfish, immoral and extremely cunning as he uses his position to manipulate the animals on the farm. He is a corrupt opportunist.
Snowball	Snowball is one of the leading pigs and a rival of Napoleon as they challenge each other for the leadership role. He is intelligent and passionate, yet does not use immoral and unjust actions as Napoleon.
Boxer	He is a cart-horse with incredible strength, work ethic and loyalty. He is a microcosm for the proletariat who were hugely overworked. Boxer completes the most work on the farm and is admired by others for his strong resilience.
Benjamin	Benjamin is a donkey. He understands what's going on, but he does nothing to stop it. He refuses to feel enthused by the rebellion which breaks on the farm.
Old Major	He is a pig that creates the ideas behind Animalism and inspires the other animals to rebel. Due to his privileged life, he has had the time to think about the ways that humans exploit animals.
Squealer	Squealer is an exceptionally gifted and persuasive speaker; he uses his language skills to promote positivity about Napoleon and negativity about his competitors. It is clear that it benefits the pigs as it ensures the pigs political and social control.
Clover	Like Boxer, Clover is a proletariat. She is a loyal disciple of the Animalist revolution. Although not physically strong, Clover is more intelligent than Boxer. Her obedient nature is often exploited by others.
Mr Jones	He is an unkind master who indulges himself while animals lack food; Orwell uses him as an allegory for Tsar Nicholas II of Russia.

Deeper learning:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zccjfrd/revision/4>
- <https://www.bl.uk/works/animal-farm>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGqrR_UZGPs
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/orwell_george.shtml

Quotation Bank

- “Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers. No animal must ever kill any other animal. All animals are equal.”
- “No sentimentality, comrade!” “War is war. The only good human being is a dead one.”
- “Napoleon took them away from their mothers, saying that he would make himself responsible for their education.”
- “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.”

Steps to writing an effective PEE paragraph:

- **What?** What is Orwell demonstrating about the character/setting/theme?
- **How?** How is this evident in the text?
- **Why?** Why does Orwell use that particular technique? Are there any interesting words? What effect does it have on the reader?

Tier 2 vocabulary

Capitalist; socialist; proletariat; allegory; tyrant; dictator; kulak; jargon; anthropomorphic; fable; irony; satire; proverb; utopia; maxim; propaganda; obfuscation; rhetoric

THINK LIKE A CRITIC

Year 9 English
Maximise 1

Key themes	How does the theme link to the novel?
Totalitarianism	A form of government where the state seeks to control every aspect of life. Those in power only care about maintaining control through any necessary means. This is demonstrated through Napoleon's control on the farm through the means of intimidation.
Class	A system in which members are ranked based on their social and economic status. Orwell shows how the oppressed are treated by those superior to them.
Religion	The belief that there is a powerful entity, such as a god, that has the ability to surpass human understanding. The character of Moses highlights this notion through his ideals of the promise land, 'Sugarcandy Mountain'.
Corruption	A dishonest or illegal act that has been exercised by individuals in power, typically involving bribery. Corruption is prevalent throughout Animal Farm as greed drives certain animals to act in an immoral fashion.
The power of language	The ability to communicate effectively through the use of strong language and persuasion. Orwell demonstrates how misinformation within the farm is used to influence and dictate the thoughts of certain animals.

Context

George Orwell: Orwell wrote the novel in 1943 and published it in 1945. He was known for his outspoken nature regarding socialism, social injustice and his opposition to totalitarianism. Orwell intended to reveal how those in power pervert the democratic promise of the revolution.

The Russian Revolution: The Revolution saw the expulsion of the kind but the rise of a new tyrannical leadership, the Soviet Union, under the guise of equality.

Joseph Stalin: In 1924, after the death of Lenin, Stalin rose to power by manipulating and intimidating others. Under Stalin, the Soviet Union became more autocratic and totalitarian: he oversaw mass repression, thousands of executions and millions of non-combat deaths.

Vladimir Lenin: Lenin was a Russian communist revolutionary and head of the Bolshevik Party (known for their explosive political events of the 20th Century). He was ruthless and showed little mercy to his political opponents.

Karl Max and Communism: Marx was a German philosopher, who rejected capitalism. He believed in a system whereby wealth was communal and labour was shared between parties. His theories formed the foundation for what communism is today.

World War Two: Europe was at war due to the rise of fascism. This led to Britain allying with the communist Soviet Union. World War Two lasted from 1939-1945.



1917

The Russian Revolution

1924

Lenin dies; Stalin and Trotsky struggle for power.



1936-38

Stalin's Great Purge kills millions of people he

1939-45

World War Two begins.



1941

Germany invades Russia.



1922

Stalin becomes general secretary of the Communist Party

1928-29

First of Stalin's Five-Year Plans. A year later, Trotsky is exiled.

1939

Stalin and Hitler sign non-aggression pact.

1940

Stalin orders for Trotsky's assassination.

1953

Stalin dies.