

## 'Animal Farm': Title, Form and Allegory

Based on the video: <https://youtu.be/rVDtTgN6BDO>  
Alternatively, search YouTube for: "Animal Farm': The Title, Form, and Allegory, Mr Bruff"



### QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Orwell write 'Animal Farm' in the form of a fable?
2. How does Orwell use the passive voice in 'Animal Farm' and what is its effect?
3. What is an allegory and how is 'Animal Farm' an example of one?
4. What is the significance of the novella's original subtitle, 'A Fairy Story'?
5. What is the structure of a traditional fairy tale and how does the novella subvert this structure?
6. How does this text criticise the Soviet Union indirectly?
7. What is the role of genre in 'Animal Farm' and how does it make the story accessible to the everyday reader?
8. What is the meaning behind the pigs as characters?

### EXTENSION QUESTION:

'Orwell wants us to think about how ordinary people who don't care enough or are easily fooled can let bad leaders and governments take over.' How far do you agree with this statement?

### EXAM QUESTION:

'Orwell wants us to think about how ordinary people are easily fooled and can let bad leaders and governments take over.' How far do you agree with this statement?

## 'Animal Farm': Structure

Based on the video: <https://youtu.be/7Zm8V8RAGLQ>  
Alternatively, search YouTube for: "Animal Farm!: Structure, Mr Bruff"



### QUESTIONS:

1. What is Freytag's pyramid?
2. In the exposition of the novella, who are the main characters introduced, and what is the setting of the story?
3. What is the inciting incident in 'Animal Farm', and how does it trigger the rebellion?
4. What key events take place during the rising action?
5. What is the climax of the novella, and what choice does the main character face at this point in the story?
6. In the falling action, what are the consequences of Napoleon's leadership as he consolidates his power, and what key events take place during this part of the plot?
7. What is the resolution of the story, and how does it address the main problem or conflict presented in the novella?
8. What is the denouement of the story, and how does it resolve any leftover questions, mysteries, or secrets presented in the plot?
9. What is the significance of the gap of an unspecified number of years between the end of chapter 9 and the beginning of chapter 10?
10. How does Orwell use the structural device of foreshadowing to create a sense of inevitability that the communist regime is doomed to fail, and what is the reader invited to consider as a result of this device?

### EXTENSION QUESTION:

Is there an alternative way of mapping the novella to Freytag's pyramid other than the one explained in this video?

### EXAM QUESTION:

What is the significance of the ending of 'Animal Farm'?

## 'Animal Farm': Historical Parallels in Chapter 1

Based on the video: <https://youtu.be/vZyND00oInU>  
Alternatively, search YouTube for: "Animal Farm': Historical Parallels in Chapter 1, Mr Bruff"



### QUESTIONS:

1. How does the character of Mr. Jones in Animal Farm reflect the leadership of Tsar Nicholas in Russia before the revolution?
2. What historical parallel can be drawn between Old Major's speech and the ideas presented in the Communist Manifesto?
3. How does the anthem 'Beasts of England' parallel with the Soviet Union's national anthem 'The Internationale'?
4. What does the firing of Mr. Jones's gun in response to the animals singing 'Beasts of England' symbolise in terms of historical events in Russia?
5. How does the Cossack dance in Chapter 2 parallel with the celebration of the Tsar's coronation in 1896?
6. What historical events does the Battle of the Cowshed parallel with?
7. How does Snowball's expulsion from Animal Farm parallel with Trotsky's exile from the Soviet Union?
8. What historical events does the construction of the windmill parallel with?
9. How does the rise of Napoleon in 'Animal Farm' parallel with Stalin's rise to power after Lenin's death?
10. In what ways does 'Animal Farm' serve as an allegory for the events leading up to and during the Russian Revolution?

### EXTENSION QUESTION:

What are the major themes of the novella that can be applied to today's society?

### EXAM QUESTION:

How does Orwell explore ideas about leadership in 'Animal Farm'?

## 'Animal Farm': Symbolism of the Windmill

Based on the video: <https://youtu.be/6zq6V9Ynswg>  
Alternatively, search YouTube for: "Animal Farm":  
Symbolism of the Windmill, Mr Bruff'



### QUESTIONS:

1. What does the windmill symbolise initially?
2. How does Napoleon initially feel about Snowball's plan for the windmill?
3. What is Squealer's role in defending Napoleon's decisions about the windmill?
4. How does the failure of the windmill in chapter 6 parallel the Soviet Union's failures in agriculture?
5. What do the humans observing the farm represent in relation to the Soviet Union?
6. How do the pigs use Snowball as a scapegoat when the windmill collapses?
7. What opportunity does the storm's destruction of the windmill provide Napoleon with?
8. How does Napoleon violate the principles of Animalism by naming the windmill 'Napoleon Mill'?
9. What does the blowing up of the windmill in the Battle of the Windmill symbolise?
10. What does the windmill symbolise by the end of the novella, and how does it represent the pigs' betrayal of the animals?

### EXTENSION QUESTION:

How else does Orwell use symbolism in the novella? Explore two examples.

### EXAM QUESTION:

How does Orwell present the ways in which characters control others in 'Animal Farm'?