

MODERN WORLD HISTORY/HONORS MODERN WORLD HISTORY
SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT – *ANIMAL FARM*, BY GEORGE ORWELL

A POST-MORTEM OF THE REVOLUTION AT ANIMAL FARM

The theme of the sophomore Modern World History course is “revolution” and there is no better introduction to that theme than *Animal Farm*, George Orwell’s fable of a workers’ revolution gone wrong. The novel is first an engaging story of the downtrodden beasts of Manor Farm based on the actual events and people of the Russian Revolution. The novel is also the perfect introduction to the concept of the “cycle of revolution”. This cycle begins with growing dissent against an oppressive regime, develops into revolution, and often ends with a return to oppression. You will use this cycle to analyze such periods of history as the French Revolution, the Russian Revolution, and the independence movements and revolutions in Latin America. Use *Animal Farm* to understand the motives for, and impact of, revolution in the real world.

Read over these questions before you read the novel and take notes to help you craft your answers as you read. **Your work must be typed in the format below or it will not be accepted.**

1. What was the new philosophy that inspired the revolution on Animal Farm? What were the main ideas behind that new philosophy?
2. What were the original goals of the revolution? Were those goals achieved? At what point were all of the revolution’s goals actually met?
3. Which class of animals gained most from the revolution? Which lost the most? Give a specific example of each.
4. How was the old (political, social, and economic) order of the farm changed as a result of the revolution?
5. For what purposes was propaganda used on Animal Farm by the new ruling group? Provide three specific examples to support your answer.
6. Explain whether the animals’ ignorance and willingness to accept propaganda contributed to their own oppression. Include three separate, specific examples to support your answer.

Format Requirements - Follow *all requirements from freshman year, including:*

- 12 point times new roman font with 1” margins on all four sides, ½” paragraph indentation, double spaced, paragraphs indented 5 spaces; no extra spaces between paragraphs
- Past tense only – *even though you are writing about a novel* (different from English style!)
- MLA heading and MLA page numbering – ***no title***

- No contractions, no slang, no clichés, no colloquialisms, no run-ons or fragments, no first/second person and proper use of third person, no run on sentences or sentence fragments, no statements of purpose, no opinions, etc.
- Use appropriate words and craft clear, precise sentences
- MLA parenthetical citation to back up your answers.
- NO *SPELLING OR GRAMMAR ERRORS/OTHER CARELESS ERRORS*
- *Proof, proof, proof, as always*