

Year 8: “Animal Farm” knowledge organiser

Key vocabulary	Contextual information	Characters		
<p>Authoritarian – enforcing strict rules</p> <p>Capitalism – private ownership of property and business</p> <p>Communism – state ownership of property and business</p> <p>Democracy – government by people’s vote</p> <p>Dictator – a ruler with total power</p> <p>Hypocrisy – saying one thing and doing another</p>	<p><i>Animal Farm</i> is an allegory, which is a story in which concrete and specific characters and situations stand for other characters and situations so as to make a point about them.</p> <p>The main action of <i>Animal Farm</i> stands for the Russian Revolution of 1917 and the early years of the Soviet Union. Animalism is really communism.</p> <p>George Orwell’s message was that malicious groups of people, like the pigs, will continue to use propaganda to usurp power, to exploit the vulnerable, and to control the masses, unless courageous individuals spread the truth and stand up for those who cannot fight for themselves.</p>	<p>Mr Jones - Drunken owner of Animal Farm, represents tyranny of humans/tsars.</p> <p>Boxer – cart-horse representing slow-witted workers</p> <p>Clover – cart-horse portraying workers; suspicious of Napoleon’s motives</p> <p>Old Major – wise old pig, inspires rebellion – portrays Lenin</p> <p>Snowball -pig who represents Trotsky, overthrown by Napoleon</p> <p>Squealer – pig representing power of propaganda</p> <p>Mr Frederick – landowner portrays USA and UK</p> <p>Mr Pilkington – landowner representing Hitler</p> <p>Moses – raven, portrays religion</p>		
<p>Naivety – lacking wisdom or judgement</p> <p>Principles – morally correct behaviour</p> <p>Propaganda - biased information used to promote a political cause</p> <p>Prosperity – wealth</p> <p>Rebellion – fighting those in power</p> <p>Totalitarianism – government by a dictator</p> <p>Treachery – betrayal of trust</p>	<th>Plot</th> <p>Old Major, 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. The animals chase Mr Jones off the farm. They all agree on the Seven Commandments that they will live by. The farm is renamed 'Animal Farm'. There is hope for a better future. The pigs start to order the other animals around and take more food than they should. The animals bravely fight off a human attempt to retake the farm, which becomes known as 'The Battle of the Cowshed'.</p> <p>The animals set to work building a windmill and Napoleon takes charge. 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. 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.</p>	Plot	<th>Famous Quotations/Techniques</th> <p>'Man is the only creature that consumes without producing.' Juxtaposition</p> <p>'Let’s face it: our lives are miserable, laborious, and short.' Rule of three</p> <p>'Four legs good, two legs bad.' Contrast</p> <p>'Can you not understand that liberty is worth more than just ribbons?' Call to action</p> <p>'All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.' Irony</p> <p>'The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.' Theme</p>	Famous Quotations/ Techniques