English - Animal Farm

Lesson 24: Animals or men?

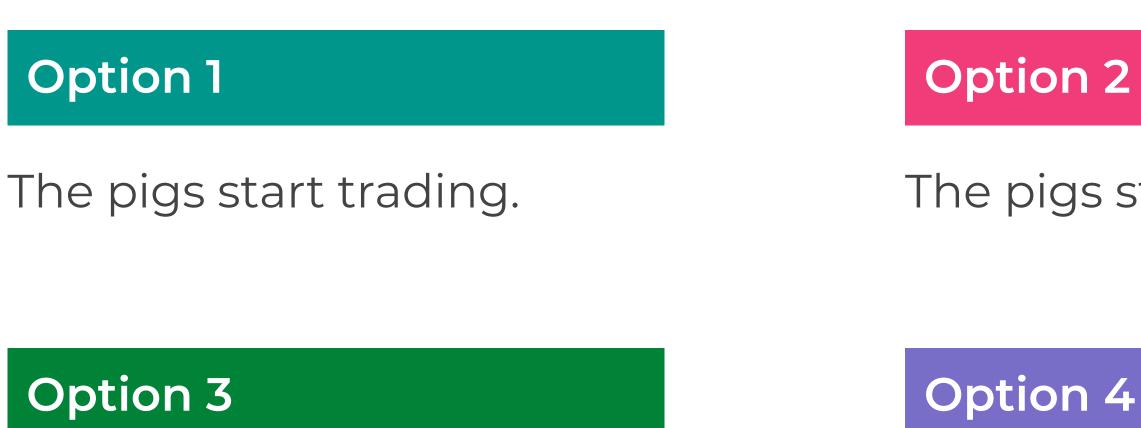
Animals or men?

Downloadable Resource

Miss Eden



What do the pigs start doing to make them seem more like humans than animals?



The pigs change the commandment.

The pigs start walking on two legs.

The pigs use propaganda.



Cyclical structure

A cyclical structure is when the _____ and _____ of the story mirror each other. The _____ makes the situation at the end of the story the _____ as it was at the _____ of the story.



After that it did not seem strange when next day the pigs who were supervising the work of the farm all carried whips in their trotters. It did not seem strange to learn that the pigs had bought themselves a **wireless set**, were arranging to install a telephone, and had taken out subscriptions to 'John Bull', 'Tit-Bits', and the 'Daily Mirror'. It did not seem strange when Napoleon was seen strolling in the farmhouse garden with a pipe in his mouth--no, not even when the pigs took Mr. Jones's clothes out of the wardrobes and put them on, Napoleon himself appearing in a black coat, ratcatcher breeches, and leather leggings, while his favourite sow appeared in the watered silk dress which Mrs. Jones had been used to wearing on Sundays.

Wireless set - radio



There was the same hearty cheering as before, and the mugs were emptied to the dregs. But as the animals outside gazed at the scene, it seemed to them that some strange thing was happening. What was it that had altered in the faces of the pigs? Clover's old dim eyes flitted from one face to another. Some of them had five chins, some had four, some had three. But what was it that seemed to be melting and changing?

An uproar of voices was coming from the farmhouse. Yes, a violent quarrel was in progress. There were shoutings, bangings on the table, sharp suspicious glances, furious denials. The source of the trouble appeared to be that Napoleon and Mr. Pilkington had each played an ace of spades simultaneously.



Clover noticed something had changed in the pigs' faces.

True





How does the extract below reflect a cyclical structure?

Twelve voices were shouting in anger, and they were all alike. No question, now, what had happened to the faces of the pigs. 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.



Why do you think George Orwell has used a cyclical structure when writing 'Animal Farm?'

Hint: What might he have been suggesting about leaders who abuse their political power?

- Warning readers about history repeating itself
- All leaders becoming tyrants

Allow space in the corner for your webcam video

Vocab

Leaders

Tyrants

Repeat

Power

