

English - Animal Farm

Lesson 8: The pigs take charge.

The pigs take charge

Downloadable Resource

Miss Eden



What message does Old Major share with the animals in his speech?

Option 1

Old Major tells the animals about his dream.

Option 3

Old Major encourages the animals to start a rebellion.

Option 2

Old Major draws the animals' attention to the tyranny of Man.

Option 4

Old Major says animals are supposed to be miserable.



Which of the following is the correct definition of hierarchy?

Option 1

A system of government with complete control.

Option 3

A system of organising people based on their importance.

Option 2

The order of importance in a school.

Option 4

A system of organising people based on their responsibility.



The work of teaching and organising the others fell naturally upon the pigs, who were generally recognised as being the cleverest of the animals. **Pre-eminent** among the pigs were two young boars named Snowball and Napoleon, whom Mr. Jones was breeding up for sale. Napoleon was a large, rather fierce-looking Berkshire boar, the only Berkshire on the farm, not much of a talker, but with a reputation for getting his own way. Snowball was a more **vivacious** pig than Napoleon, quicker in speech and more inventive, but was not considered to have the same depth of character.

Pre-eminent - superior / better than others

Vivacious - lively



**The pigs were considered to be the cleverest
of all the animals.**

True

False



All the other male pigs on the farm were porkers. The best known among them was a small fat pig named Squealer, with very round cheeks, twinkling eyes, nimble movements, and a **shrill** voice. He was a brilliant talker, and when he was arguing some difficult point he had a way of skipping from side to side and whisking his tail which was somehow very persuasive. The others said of Squealer that he could turn black into white.



Squealer wasn't very good at talking to people.

True

False



Who are 'the others?'

'The others said of Squealer that he could turn black into white.'

What does this metaphor suggest about what Squealer can do?



What skill does Squealer have?

Option 1

Squealer is magic.

Option 2

Squealer can persuade or convince people of anything.

Option 3

Squealer can make anyone like him.

Option 4

Squealer can paint very well.



These three had elaborated old Major's teachings into a complete system of thought, to which they gave the name of Animalism.

Their most faithful **disciples** were the two cart-horses, Boxer and Clover. These two had great difficulty in thinking anything out for themselves, but having once accepted the pigs as their teachers, they absorbed everything that they were told, and passed it on to the other animals by simple arguments. They were unfailing in their attendance at the secret meetings in the barn, and led the singing of 'Beasts of England', with which the meetings always ended.

Disciples - followers



**Squealer, Napoleon and Snowball believed in
Old Major's teachings.**

True

False



‘These three had elaborated old Major's teachings into a complete system of thought, to which they gave the name of Animalism.’

What are the pigs trying to achieve by giving the thoughts of Old Major a name?



What is the effect of calling them disciples?

What does it suggest about the pigs?

Their most faithful **disciples** were the two cart-horses, Boxer and Clover.

These two had **great difficulty in thinking anything out for themselves,**

but having once accepted the pigs as their teachers, **they absorbed**

everything that they were told, and passed it on to the other animals

by simple arguments.

How useful are the horses to the pigs? Why?

Why is it important we know this?



How do we know the pigs are in charge on the farm?

Fill in the gaps.

- We know the pigs are in charge because they are the _____ of all the animals on the farm.
- Squealer's special skill is...
- The pigs give Old _____ teaching a name: _____. They do this because...
- The cart-horses were not very _____ and so they accepted everything they were told by the _____.

