**B. General information about the book and the writer**

1. a The title of the book is Animal Farm

b The title fits the book.

c The title fits the book, because the title is the name of the farm of the animal after it was renamed. Animal Farm is the place where everything takes place in the story.

1. a The writer of the book is George Orwell

b George Orwell was the penname of Eric Arthur Blair. He lived from 25 June 1903 to 21 January 1950. Orwell was an essayist, novelist, journalist and critic from England. Orwell went to Eton College from 1917 to 1921 and that has caused his lifelong hate to the british upperclass. Orwell’s most famous work is the book 1984, a dystopian future novel written in 1949. In that book he predicted what a sad world it would be in 1984.

3. a The book is written in the year 1945, just after the second world war was finished.

b The book is significant for the time it was written in, because the book is all about the Soviet-Union and its leaders. In the period of time the book was written in.

4. a The genre of the book is political satire.

b . The meaning of political satire is: ‘satire that specialises in gaining entertainment from politics. This book is indirectly about the politics of the Soviet-Union, and it tells the story of a couple of animals who represent some politicians. So that is why the genre of this book is political satire.

5. a I think the main theme of the book is power.

b Does the book have any other themes? If yes, which? The book has other themes: Dreams, hopes and plans, violence and rules and order.

c Power is a theme in the book because it’s a really important aspect. The pigs in the book, and the characters with the most power and they increase it gradually themselves and that is what causes all the problems in animal farm. Dreams, hopes and plans is an important theme as well, because the pigs give all sorts of hopes and plans to motivate the other animals to work for them and go through. Sugarcandy mountain is another example, because the animals who believe in it, hope to go to sugarcandy mountain when they die, to be at a better place. Violence is an important theme in the book as well, because the rebellions in the book are with much violence and the animals really are warriors. Rules and order is an important theme as well, because at the animal farm, the pigs set up a couple of main rules of animalism, that all the animals have to follow. But the rules seem to get changed as the book follows, and the rules are adjusted to the pigs wishes and needs.

6. a+b The book takes place on a farm first called Manor farm, and after the rebellion it’s called animal farm. It is hard to say when the story took place, because it is fiction and no things about the outer world are mentioned, only that the slaughter’s wagon is pulled by horses, so that would indicate that the book takes place probably before the 50s.

7. a The narrator in the story is a third person narrator.

b “The animals were shocked beyond measure to learn that even Snowball could be guilty of such an action.” & “The hens woke up squawking with terror because they had all dreamed simultaneously of hearing a gun go off in the distance”

8. a One day the drunk and lazy Mr. Jones of Manor Farm forgets to feed his animals. Because the animals absolutely don’t agree with Mr. Jones’ behaviour towards them, they start a rebellion under leading of two pigs called Napoleon and Snowball. The rebellion is won by the animals and the humans have fled. Manor farm is then renamed as animal farm, and the animals ( mainly the pigs, because they take the lead and can read and write ) set up 7 main rules, the main principles of animalism. Including that animals on four legs will be benefitted, or better known as: “Four legs good, two legs bad.”. But as the story goes on, the animals notice that some main principles are changed and that promises that the pigs made won’t come true. But no-one says something. The pigs gradually become more human like, first they took over the farm house in which the humans used to live, then the slept on beds ( which was against the main principles of animalism ) and then the pigs even went to walk on two legs. Eventually the animals couldn’t even see the difference between the pigs and the humans anymore.

b Wikipedia.com

**C. Your own interpretation of the book**

9. a What is the underlying message of book? (what message does the book give you as a reader?) I think the underlying meaning of this book is to clearify the effects of communism on the long term, and what happened to the Soviet-Union.

b “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.”

10. a The most important protagonists in the book were Napoleon, Snowball, Benjamin, Boxer, Clover and Mr. Jones.

b Napoleon was a sly pig, and a liar who did not make his promises come true and let others suffer from his decisions and mistakes. Benjamin was really smart, and stubborn donkey, who acted like nothing happened, because at first he was the only one who could see the dangers in the pigs and animalism, but he also knew that telling everyone would be no good.

11.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of  protagonist 1: | Napoleon | Name of  protagonist 2: | Boxer |
| Positive:  He is pretty smart | Negative:  He is a liar and not good to his comrades | Positive:  He is a hard worker | Negative:  Worked too hard and didn’t stop, eventually he died from that. |
|  |  |  |  |

12. a I think the most important moment in the book was when squealer was seen re-writing the rules.

b I think the moment Squealer was seen changing the rules is the most important event in the book, because then it was (indirectly) proven that the pigs are misleading and lying to the other animals. Although some animals had already expected that, they said nothing because that would not be a good idea and Napoleon would always have an excuse for those things.

13. a The book ends when the situation for the animals at Animal Farm is worst, and nobody can see the difference between the pigs and the humans. All the main principles of animalism were eventually all forgotten.

b I do not necessarily like the ending, because it is all pretty sad. But I do think that the ending had to be like this and that this is the only true and good ending possible, because this is actually the story of communism and a good end doesn’t fit to that.

14. a+b My overall meaning is that I really like the book. I think it’s just amazing how Orwell made a childish book about a very complicated situation actually going on in the world. The things are so indirect yet so obvious, and I really liked how good Orwell is with his words. With my favourite quote: “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.” I am normally not interested about books from the 20th century, but this book and the book Watership down by Richard Addams are clearly exceptions for that.

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