

Animal Farm

by George Orwell

Webquest: *Animal Farm*—Inheriting a Farm!

Introduction:

Congratulations! You've inherited a farm and now must learn how to be a farmer. Be warned, though—the animals are politically active and planning to start a revolution against humans like you. It's your job to convince them that this is a bad idea. Unfortunate, I know...and you thought pulling weeds would be your biggest hurdle!

Task:

To get on their good side, you'll have to write something that will earn the animals' respect. Take some time to understand their concerns, motives, and goals for this rebellion. Then, research how to successfully win them over.



Process & Resources:

Use the following sources to answer the questions below. This information will help you create a persuasive piece for the animals on your farm. You can write a short news article, make a propaganda poster, or give a rousing speech, convincing the animals to abandon their plans.



What are these pigs preaching?: Socialism vs. Communism

Use this website to obtain the answers to the questions that follow:

<https://www.history.com/news/socialism-communism-differences>

1. What is the difference between Socialism and Communism?
2. What are the goals of Socialism?
3. What is Democratic Socialism?



What are the animals' goals?: The Russian Revolution

Use these websites to obtain the answers to the questions that follow:

<https://guides.loc.gov/chronicling-america-czar-nicholas-ii>

<https://www.crf-usa.org/images/pdf/lenin-russian-revolution.pdf>

<https://academic.mu.edu/meissnerd/russian-rev.htm>

https://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/modern-world-history-1918-to-1980/russia-1900-to-1939/life-in-ussr-under-stalin/?utm_content=expand_article

1. Who was Czar Nicholas II, and how was he received by the Russian people?
2. What were Vladimir Lenin's goals for the Russian Revolution?
3. How did Joseph Stalin come into power?
4. What was life in the Soviet Union like under Stalin's rule?

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Who gave the animals these ideas?: George Orwell

Use these websites to obtain the answers to the questions that follow:

<https://www.orwellfoundation.com/the-orwell-foundation/orwell/biography/>

<https://www.orwellfoundation.com/the-orwell-foundation/orwell/essays-and-other-works/why-i-write/>

1. Who was George Orwell?
2. Where did he come up with the idea for *Animal Farm*?
3. What was Orwell's opinion of Socialism?
3. What major authors embraced Romanticism?

Why are these animals talking?: Satire and Allegory

Use these websites to obtain the answers to the questions that follow:

<https://www.masterclass.com/articles/what-is-satire-how-to-use-satire-in-literature-pop-culture-and-politics-plus-tips-on-using-satire-in-writing>

<https://www.masterclass.com/articles/what-is-allegory-types-of-allegory-in-writing-and-5-tips-on-using-allegory-in-writing>

1. What is satire?
2. Why is satire an effective way to make a point?
3. What is an allegory?



How should I persuade these animals?: Propaganda

Use these websites to obtain the answers to the questions that follow:

<https://www.canzmarketing.com/7-types-of-propaganda-techniques-advertisers-use/>

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/these-soviet-propaganda-posters-meant-to-evoke-heroism-pride>

1. What is propaganda?
2. What are some techniques of propaganda? Which do you find to be most effective?
3. How did the Soviet Union use propaganda?
4. How is propaganda used today?

Conclusion

Now that you've learned a bit about your animals, you must write something that convinces them to keep you as their farmer. Write a brief article for a newsletter, develop a short speech, or create a propaganda poster to persuade the animals that they should abandon their rebellion. Be creative, but make sure to use the information you've found in your research—try to include something from each topic.

Note to Teacher: The links in this web quest were chosen for the integrity of their content, but content on the web is subject to change beyond our control. Please make sure these sites are still valid and appropriate for your students. In addition, if you find that a website we've linked no longer exists, please contact us so we can replace it with an active website.