

English Cycle 3 Knowledge Organiser: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

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Key Characters		Historical Context / Political Ideas		Language / stylistic devices	
1.Mr Jones-Nicholas II	overthrown by the animals on the farm	George Orwell (1903-1950)	a writer who spoke out against social injustice.	fable	a story that teaches a lesson or moral
2.Old Major	inspires the rebellion which his rhetoric	Karl Marx and Communism	a German philosopher who rejected Capitalism; believed in a system in which wealth was communal and labour was shared	allegory	a story which is an extended metaphor and symbolises a real-life event/situation
3.Napoleon-Stalin	cunning, treacherous, lazy and selfish				
4.Snowball-Leon Trotsky	intelligent and passionate. Driven from the farm by Napoleon's forces.				
5.Squealer-Soviet Propaganda machine	twists the truth to ensure that the pigs retain political and social control.				
6.Boxer-Russian working class	a cart-horse, who demonstrates incredible strength, work ethic, and loyalty.	The Russian Revolution	the movement that removed the reigning Tsarist autocracy from power and led to the rise of the Soviet Union.	satire	use of humour, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticise people's stupidity or vices
7.Mollie-Aristocracy	a vain, flighty mare who pulls Mr. Jones's carriage.	Nicholas II	the last emperor of Russia; eventually overthrown by the Bolsheviks	omniscient narrator	a narrator who knows and sees everything.
Key Themes		Joseph Stalin	rose to power through manipulating and intimidating others; under Stalin, the Soviet Union became more controlling and totalitarian	metaphor	comparison where one thing is described as though it is another
class	the oppressed often generate their own class divisions over time after the enemy is eliminated.	Life in Communist Soviet Union	standard of living decreased, working conditions deteriorated; personal freedoms significantly violated.	simile	comparison using like or as
naivety	Orwell makes clear that people who do not have the education or the position to know better, are often oppressed.			personification	the attribution of human qualities to non-living things