

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 1



Key Paragraph, p. 28

“Now, comrades, what is the nature of this life of ours? Let us face it: our lives are miserable, laborious, and short. We are born, we are given just so much food as will keep the breath in our bodies, and those of us who are capable of it are forced to work to the last atom of our strength; and the very instant that our usefulness has come to an end we are slaughtered with hideous cruelty. No animal in England knows the meaning of happiness or leisure after he is a year old. No animal in England is free. The life of an animal is misery and slavery; this is the plain truth” (p. 28).

Writing Prompt

Old Major speaks of the injustice that animals have to deal with in their everyday lives. All of them are immediately inspired by the truth in his words. However, his words are very formal.

Pretend you are an animal who heard Old Major’s speech. In your own words, explain it to a friend of yours who wasn’t present. **Write a 1-2 paragraph informational letter explaining why you have joined the cause and why you think your friend should, too. Select significant and relevant facts and use a formal tone throughout the letter to contribute to a sense of cohesion and wholeness. When you have completed your assignment, be sure to reread your work in order to revise, edit and strengthen the quality of your writing.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 2



Key Paragraph, p. 31

"I have little more to say. I merely repeat, remember always your duty of enmity towards Man and all his ways. Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy. Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend. And remember also that in fighting against Man, we must not come to resemble him. Even when you have conquered him, do not adopt his vices. No animal must ever live in a house, or sleep in a bed, or wear clothes, or drink alcohol, or smoke tobacco, or touch money, or engage in trade. All the habits of Man are evil. And, above all, no animal must ever tyrannise over his own kind. Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers. No animal must ever kill any other animal. All animals are equal" (p. 31).

Writing Prompt

In his speech, Old Major clearly states the evils of Man. He does not believe that human beings can be good, compassionate, or friendly to animals in any way. He lists the vices of mankind, but points out none of their virtues. Is it fair to label all of one species – or group – as evil, without taking into account the other side?

You are a human being who has witnessed Old Major's speech. You've hidden in the barn, and now feel you must speak to defend Man. **Write a paragraph in which you explain to the animals that some human beings are the friends of animals. Use an anecdote to tell of how you or someone you know has helped animals in the past, and, while addressing the animals, use a tone that is both informative and appropriate. It is your job to explain to the animals that some good people do exist, people with integrity. Convey your ideas clearly; use formal speech and precise language to convey a unified whole.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 3



Key Paragraph, p. 37-38

“Now, as it turned out, the Rebellion was achieved much earlier and more easily than anyone had expected. In past years Mr. Jones, although a hard master, had been a capable farmer, but of late he had fallen on evil days. He had become much disheartened after losing money in a lawsuit, and had taken to drinking more than was good for him. For whole days at a time he would lounge in his Windsor chair in the kitchen, reading the newspapers, drinking, and occasionally feeding Moses on crusts of bread soaked in beer. His men were idle and dishonest, the fields were full of weeds, the buildings wanted roofing, the hedges were neglected, and the animals were underfed” (p. 38).

Writing Prompt

The animals of Manor Farm have many reasons to be dissatisfied with life under Jones. The farm has deteriorated, and Jones seems to no longer care about the welfare of the animals on his farm. Do the animals have any option other than Rebellion?

Pretend you are one of the animals on the farm. **Write a letter proposing a peaceful resolution to the animals’ problems. Be sure to list your grievances, and explain what you would like to change on Manor Farm. Explain to Jones why it would be in his best interest to negotiate with the animals, and offer some kind of compromise in exchange for better working conditions. Use devices such as metaphor, simile, and/or analogy to manage the complexity of the topics you are discussing. Maintain a formal tone throughout your writing. When you have completed your assignment, reread your writing in order to revise, edit and ultimately strengthen the coherence of your work.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 4



Key Paragraph, p. 40

“In a very little while the animals had destroyed everything that reminded them of Mr. Jones. Napoleon then led them back to the store-shed and served out a double ration of corn to everybody, with two biscuits for each dog. Then they sang *Beasts of England* from end to end seven times running, and after that they settled down for the night and slept as they had never slept before” (p. 40).

Writing Prompt

Imagine what would happen if a group of animals took over a farm in your community. What would people think? How would neighbors respond? Would there be a reaction from the local authorities? It is in the interest of the animals to try to get the community on their side against Jones.

Pretend you are Snowball. Imagine that after having expelled Jones, you have been contacted by a reporter. **Write a brief explanatory paragraph to answer the following question: Why did you and the other animals expel your masters? Write a strong opinion sentence and back it up with facts and evidence provided thus far. You might mention that Jones ignored the request you wrote yesterday for a peaceful resolution. Conclude by restating your opinion. Use devices such as simile, metaphor, and analogy to create cohesion and unified wholeness. Reread your work when you have completed the assignment to revise, edit and strengthen the clarity of your work.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 5



Key Paragraph, p. 49

“...Snowball also busied himself with organising the other animals into what he called Animal Committees. He was indefatigable at this. He formed the Egg Production Committee for the hens, the Clean Tails League for the cows, the Wild Comrades’ Re-education Committee (the object of this was to tame the rats and rabbits), the Whiter Wool Movement for the sheep, and various others, beside instituting classes in reading and writing. On the whole, these projects were a failure. The attempt to tame the wild creatures, for instance, broke down almost immediately. They continued to behave very much as before and when treated with generosity, simply took advantage of it. The cat joined the Re-education Committee and was very active in it for some days. She was seen one day sitting on a roof and talking to some sparrows who were just out of her reach. She was telling them that all animals were now comrades and that any sparrow who chose could come and perch on her paw; but the sparrows kept their distance” (p. 49).

Writing Prompt

Snowball’s style of leadership is to encourage animals to actively participate in committees to improve Animal Farm. He is popular and has many ideas, but for some reason, many of them are unsuccessful. Is there a better way to encourage the animals to be politically active?

Pretend you are one of the animals on Animal Farm who has an idea for a committee. **Write a memorandum (brief note or announcement) to Snowball proposing the new committee. Explain your idea, the name of the new committee, and why you with it will be a successful venture. Remember: you need Snowball’s and the pigs’ help to pull it off so be sure to sell your idea persuasively! Use devices such as simile, metaphor and analogy to be as creative, coherent, and persuasive as possible. Bring your finished work to class and switch with a peer, who will revise and edit your work.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 6



Key Paragraph, p. 52

“Comrades!” he cried. “You do not imagine, I hope, that we pigs are doing this in a spirit of selfishness and privilege? Many of us actually dislike milk and apples. I dislike them myself. Our sole object in taking these things is to preserve our health. Milk and apples (this has been proved by Science, comrades) contain substances absolutely necessary to the well-being of a pig. We pigs are brainworkers. The whole management and organization of this farm depend on us. Day and night we are watching over your welfare. It is for *your* sake that we drink that milk and eat those apples. Do you know what would happen if we pigs failed in our duty? Jones would come back! Yes, Jones would come back! Surely, comrades,” cried Squealer almost pleadingly, skipping from side to side and whisking his tail, “surely there is no one among you who wants to see Jonas come back?” (p. 52).

Writing Prompt

The pigs have been found out! Somehow, Squealer manages to convince his fellow animals that the pigs are not selfish, but are acting in everyone’s best interest. Could you be as persuasive as Squealer?

Pretend you have been caught eating your little brother or sister’s candy. **Write a paragraph that appeals to the reader’s emotions (similar to the one above) to convince her or him not to tell on you. Appeal to emotion by using devices such as simile, metaphor, and analogy. Use words or phrases that would be appropriate and helpful to explain why you are trying to help and that you ate the candy to help the family. You may find it helpful to research other persuasive US texts (such as the Declaration of Independence) to find inspiration. Use words and language that the founding fathers used in order to convey your message.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 7



Key Passage, p. 59

“‘No sentimentality, comrade!’ cried Snowball, from whose wounds the blood was still dripping. ‘War is war. The only good human being is a dead one.’

‘I have no wish to take life, not even human life,’ repeated Boxer, and his eyes were full of tears” (p. 59).

Writing Prompt

During the Battle of the Cowshed, Boxer temporarily believes he killed one of the men who attacked. Boxer, a gentle soul, is sad over the death, but Snowball disagrees.

Pretend you are Boxer. **In a paragraph, describe why you believe it is wrong to take a human life. Be creative with your response; utilize devices such as simile, metaphor and analogy to explain why you believe killing is an injustice. Is Animal Farm better off if no men died in the attack? When you have finished writing your paragraph, put it aside and revisit it in an hour – edit and revise your work.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 8



Key Paragraph, p. 65

“The whole farm was deeply divided on the subject of the windmill. Snowball did not deny that to build it would be a difficult business. Stone would have to be carried and built up into walls, then the sails would have to be made and after that there would be need for dynamos and cables. (How these were to be procured, Snowball did not say.) But he maintained that it could all be done in a year. And thereafter, he declared, so much labour would be saved that the animals would only need to work three days a week. Napoleon, on the other hand, argued that the great need of the moment was to increase food production, and that if they wasted time on the windmill they would all starve to death. The animals formed themselves into two factions under the slogan, ‘Vote for snowball and the three-day week’ and ‘Vote for Napoleon and the full manger.’ Benjamin was the only animal who did not side with either faction. He refused to believe either that food would become more plentiful or that the windmill would save work. Windmill or no windmill, he said, life would go on as it had always gone on – that is, badly” (p. 65).

Writing Prompt

Both Napoleon and Snowball make excellent points about the windmill project. Snowball believes that it will improve the lives of the animals; Napoleon thinks that the project will make life worse for everyone. What do you think?

Choose a side and take a stance on the issue. **As an animal, write a short article for the *Animal Farm Times* that explains why everyone should vote for your candidate’s plan. Be sure to include relevant and helpful transitions linking your ideas together. Use either evidence or a Commonly Accepted Belief in your persuasive paragraph or look to the ‘self-evident truths’ that Thomas Jefferson introduced in the Declaration of Independence for inspiration. Other literary, historical and informational texts can be helpful to aid research.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 9



Key Paragraph, p. 70

“‘Bravery is not enough,’ said Squealer. ‘Loyalty and obedience are more important. And as to the Battle of the Cowshed, I believe the time will come when we shall find that Snowball’s part in it was much exaggerated. Discipline, comrades, iron discipline! That is the watchword for today. One false step, and our enemies would be upon us. Surely, comrades, you do not want Jones back?’” (p. 70).

Writing Prompt

We know Squealer is trying to sway the opinion of the animals. Even though they’ve all witnessed what Snowball has done for the animals, Squealer tries to convince them that Snowball was an evil influence. Luckily, you know better than to believe him.

Write a descriptive paragraph or two defending Snowball. Does Squealer’s speech display integrity? Why or why not? Use informational texts to help you strengthen your opinions. Use devices such as simile, metaphor and analogy to boost the creativity, coherence and drama of your paragraph. When you have finished your assignment trade with a partner and use the editing checklist you created today to correct your partner’s writing. After you receive feedback, make sure to revise and edit your paper.

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 10



Key Paragraph, p. 76-77

“Once again the animals were conscious of a vague uneasiness. Never to have any dealings with human beings, never to engage in trade, never to make use of money – had not these been among the earliest resolutions passed at that first triumphant Meeting after Jones was expelled? All the animals remembered passing such resolutions: or at least they thought that they remembered it. The four young pigs who had protested when Napoleon abolished the Meetings raised their voices timidly, but they were promptly silenced by a tremendous growling from the dogs. Then, as usual, the sheep broke into ‘Four legs good, two legs bad!’ and the momentary awkwardness was smoothed over...” (p. 77).

Writing Prompt

Although Napoleon’s actions seem contrary to Animalism, Squealer seems to believe that Napoleon is doing the right thing. Certainly he has found the solutions to some very real problems facing Animal Farm. Is it possible that he isn’t so bad after all?

From Napoleon’s point of view, write the introductory paragraph for an essay explaining why Animals are “good” and humans are “bad.” First, list some opening statistics that can be gained through informational texts. Then provide an opinion statement containing at least three reasons supporting your opinion. Which group shows the most integrity? How? Why? Be creative and descriptive; use metaphor, simile and analogy to boost the strength of your stance. Refer to the editing checklist you created yesterday once you have finished your assignment to begin the revision process.

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 11



Key Paragraph, p. 78

“...Their relations with the human race were now not quite the same as they had been before. The human beings did not hate Animal Farm any less now that it was prospering; indeed, they hated it more than ever. Every human being held it as an article of faith that the farm would go bankrupt sooner or later, and, above all, that the windmill would be a failure. They would meet in the public-houses and prove to one another by means of diagrams that the windmill was bound to fall down, or that if it did stand up, then that it would never work. And yet, against their will, they had developed a certain respect for the efficiency with which the animals were managing their own affairs. One symptom of this was that they had begun to call Animal Farm by its proper name and ceased to pretend that it was called the Manor Farm. They had also dropped their championship of Jones, who had given up hope of getting his farm back and gone to live in another part of the country. Except through Whymper, there was as yet no contact between Animal Farm and the outside world, but there were constant rumours that Napoleon was about to enter into a definite business agreement either with Mr. Pilkington of Foxwood or with Mr. Frederick of Pinchfield – but never, it was noticed, with both simultaneously” (p. 78).

Writing Prompt

The human beings, while skeptical of Animal Farm, are beginning to respect Napoleon and his animals. They suspect that they may be able to benefit from trading with the animals, and are beginning to compete for the privilege.

Imagine that you are one of the neighboring farmers. **Write a 1-2 paragraph letter to the animals describing why you respect the farm. Remember, integrity requires wholeness. How is integrity at play here? Why has your opinion of the farm changed? Be as detailed as possible; utilize simile, metaphor and analogy to aid coherence. When you have completed your assignment, spend time editing and revising your finished product.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 12



Key Paragraph, p. 87

“...Napoleon acted swiftly and ruthlessly. He ordered the hens’ rations to be stopped, and decreed any animal giving so much as a grain of corn to a hen should be punished by death. The dogs saw to it that these orders were carried out. For five days the hens held out, then they capitulated and went back to their nesting boxes. Nine hens had died in the meantime...” (p. 87).

Writing Prompt

When the hens refuse to give up their eggs, they are potentially hurting the entire Farm. However, they believe that they are protecting their young and are well within their rights to act. Should they be required to sacrifice their eggs so that the other animals might benefit?

Do you agree with the hens’ decision? **Write a paragraph explaining why or why not. Use evidence from the text as well as devices such as metaphor, simile and analogy to express your opinions concisely. Are the hens displaying integrity? Remember, *integrity requires that the way I live my life is whole, entire, undivided, sound, coherent and principled. Integrity moves me to do difficult and new things, not just easy and accustomed things.***

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 13



Key Paragraph, p. 93

“The three hens who had been the ringleaders in the attempted rebellion over the eggs now came forward and stated that Snowball had appeared to them in a dream and incited them to disobey Napoleon’s orders. They, too, were slaughtered. Then a goose came forward and confessed to having secreted six ears of corn during the last year’s harvest and eaten them in the night. Then a sheep confessed to having urinated in the drinking pool – urged to do this, so she said, by Snowball – and two other sheep confessed to having murdered an old ram, an especially devoted follower of Napoleon, by chasing him round and round a bonfire when he was suffering from a cough. They were all slain on the spot. And so the tale of confessions and executions went on, until there was a pile of corpses lying before Napoleon’s feet and the air was heavy with the smell of blood, which had been unknown there since the expulsion of Jones” (p. 93).

Writing Prompt

Several animals confess to crimes, always blaming Snowball in some way. What motivates them to do so is unclear, but it is possible that in their fear, they hoped blaming Snowball would protect them from harm.

Write an anonymous note to Napoleon urging him to show mercy to Snowball’s “conspirators.” Remind him of the original tenets of Animalism, and ask him to spare your friends from execution. Perhaps you should use a quote from the Seven Commandments, Declaration of Independence, or other significant American documents/addresses. Finally, appeal to emotion to convince him through the use of simile, metaphor, and/or analogy. When you have finished drafting your note, be sure to edit and revise your work.

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 14



Key Paragraph, p. 95-96

“...As Clover looked down the hillside her eyes filled with tears. If she could have spoken her thoughts, it would have been to say that this was not what they had aimed at when they had set themselves years ago to work for the overthrow of the human race. These scenes of terror and slaughter were not what they had looked forward to on that night when old Major first stirred them to rebellion. If she herself had had any picture of the future, it had been of a society of animals set free from hunger and the whip, all equal, each working according to his capacity, the strong protecting the weak, as she had protected the lost brood of ducklings with her foreleg on the night of Major’s speech. Instead – she did not know why – they had come to a time when no one dared speak his mind, when fierce, growling dogs roamed everywhere, and when you had to watch your comrades torn to pieces after confessing to shocking crimes. There was no thought of rebellion or disobedience in her mind. She knew that, even as things were, they were far better off than they had been in the days of Jones, and that before all else it was needful to prevent the return of the human beings. Whatever happened she would remain faithful, work hard, carry out the orders that were given to her, and accept the leadership of Napoleon. But still, it was not for this that she and all the other animals had hoped and toiled. It was not for this that they had built the windmill and faced the bullets of Jones’s gun. Such were her thoughts, though she lacked the words to express them” (p. 95-96).

Writing Prompt

The author, George Orwell, has written a cautionary tale. He warns against the potential pitfalls of communist revolution. He is also condemning the Soviet Union, and specifically Stalin’s brutal policies.

Think about what Orwell is trying to caution the reader about in today’s reading. **Write a paragraph describing what you think Orwell’s main message is in this novel. Then back up your statement with examples from the novel and predictions of what you believe will happen on Animal Farm. Be logical in your argument, and include a concession. When you have completed your assignment, spend time revising and editing your finished product.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 15



Key Paragraph, p. 99-100

“Napoleon was now never spoken of simply as ‘Napoleon.’ He was always referred to in formal style as ‘our Leader, Comrade Napoleon,’ and the pigs liked to invent for him such titles as Father of All Animals, Terror of Mankind, Protector of the Sheep-fold, Ducklings’ Friend, and the like. In his speeches, Squealer would talk with the tears rolling down his cheeks of Napoleon’s wisdom, the goodness of his heart, and the deep love he bore to all animals everywhere, even and especially the unhappy animals who still lived in ignorance and slavery on other farms...” (p. 99-100).

Writing Prompt

Names are important indicators of one’s identity, status, and relationship. Reflect on the different names given to Napoleon.

Write a paragraph in which you present your own name for this character. What do you think he should be called? Why is this an appropriate name for him? What does it tell you about his character? Be creative: utilize metaphor, simile, and analogy to strengthen your ideas. When you have completed the first draft of your paragraph, be sure to edit and revise it in order to make your ideas stronger and more coherent.

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 16



Key Paragraph, p. 106

“Napoleon called the animals together immediately and in a terrible voice pronounced the death sentence upon Frederick. When captured, he said, Frederick should be boiled alive. At the same time he warned them that after this treacherous deed the worst was to be expected. Frederick and his men might make their long-expected attack at any moment. Sentinels were placed at all the approaches to the farm. In addition, four pigeons were sent to Foxwood with a conciliatory message, which it was hoped might re-establish good relations with Pilkington” (p. 106).

Writing Prompt

Napoleon has played a dangerous game, allying himself alternately with Pilkington and Frederick. Now that Frederick has betrayed Animal Farm, Napoleon wishes to be friends with Pilkington again. How can he best achieve this?

Recall a time in which you have had to make a difficult decision and chose a side. **Describe the situation in 1-2 paragraphs. Incorporate devices such as simile, metaphor and analogy to be as coherent as possible. How were you showing integrity in your choice? What was the outcome? When you have finished a draft of the assignment, take time to revise and edit your work.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 17



Key Paragraph, p. 112-113

“But a few days later Muriel, reading over the Seven Commandments to herself, noticed that there was yet another of them which the animals had remembered wrong. They had thought the Fifth Commandment was “No animal shall drink alcohol,” but there were two words that they had forgotten. Actually the Commandment read: ‘No animal shall drink alcohol *to excess*’” (p. 112-113).

Writing Prompt

One of the original tenets of animalism was an abstention from using alcohol. Once the pigs try it, they change their minds, but recognize the importance of not drinking too much. Even in the human community, this is a controversial issue.

Explain what you believe the animals should do: either abstain or partake in alcohol. **Write 1-2 paragraphs about your opinions on the matter. Support your opinion with evidence from the text. Also, research the temperance movement that occurred in the early 20th century in the US. How are the animals faced with a similar situation? What choice would show the most integrity? When you have completed a draft of the assignment, make time to edit, revise and strengthen your work.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 18



Key Paragraph, p. 115

“Meanwhile life was hard. The winter was as cold as the last one had been, and food was even shorter. Once again all rations were reduced, except those of the pigs and the dogs. A too rigid equality in rations, Squealer explained, would have been contrary to the principles of Animalism. In any case he had no difficulty in proving to the other animals that they were *not* in reality short of food, whatever the appearances might be. For the time being, certainly, it had been found necessary to make a readjustment of rations (Squealer always spoke of it as a “readjustment,” never as a “reduction”), but in comparison with the days of Jones, the improvement was enormous...” (p. 115).

Writing Prompt

Squealer is a gifted speaker indeed. He is able to keep the animals from revolting by convincing them that their lives are better than they were under Jones. He even convinces them that “the improvement was enormous” (115.)

Was the improvement enormous? **Write 1-2 paragraphs either supporting or refuting this claim. What evidence do you have to show that the improvements are/are not enormous? When you have completed a draft of the assignment, take time to revise, edit and strengthen your writing.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 19



Key Paragraph, p. 123

“‘Fools! Fools!’ shouted Benjamin, prancing round them and stamping the earth with his small hoofs. ‘Fools! Do you not see what is written on the side of that van?’” (p. 123).

Writing Prompt

One of the seven original commandments of *Animal Farm* was “No animal shall kill any other animal. Of course the pigs have amended the commandment to read, “No animal shall kill any other animal *without cause*.” Napoleon and Squealer would likely argue that this was a case of euthanasia, or mercy killing. Others may see it as murder, pure and simple.

Research the case of Lenny and George in John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men*. Do you consider George’s death murder? How is it similar to the death that has occurred in today’s reading of *Animal Farm*?

In 1-2 paragraphs, respond to the topic of killing in these two foundational works of American literature. Be as concise as possible; include simile, metaphor and analogy to aid comprehension. When you have completed this assignment, make sure to revise and edit your work.

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 20



Key Paragraph, p. 127

“Years passed. The seasons came and went, the short animal lives fled by. A time came when there was no one who remembered the old days before the Rebellion, except Clover, Benjamin, Moses the raven, and a number of the pigs” (p. 127).

Writing Prompt

As the years fly by, young people are often unaware of their own parents’ histories. Important events are forgotten, and people become ignorant. Certainly, many of the animals of Animal Farm know nothing of life before the revolution other than what Squealer may have told them.

Pretend you are Clover, and write a history of Animal Farm from your point of view. **Write 1-2 paragraphs in which you tell your life story, and explain all that you have witnessed in your life. Be as descriptive as possible and feel free to use devices such as simile, metaphor and analogy. When you have finished a draft, revise and edit your work to create a stronger assignment.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Day 21



Key Paragraph, p. 133

“For once Benjamin consented to break his rule, and he read out to her what was written on the wall. There was nothing there now except a single Commandment. It ran:

ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL

BUT SOME ANIMALS ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS

(p. 133).

Writing Prompt

From the pigs’ point of view, Animalism is still in effect. The animals control their own farm, no man is in charge, and most animals (except the pigs and dogs) share the resources of the farm equally.

From the author’s point of view, the pigs have violated the spirit of Animalism. They’ve broken all of the commandments, began walking on two legs, and even act like humans.

Do you believe that the pigs are acting outside the tenants of Animalism? **Write 1-2 explaining why or why not. Be as descriptive as possible. Draw on personal experience as well as evidence from the book to support your idea. When you have completed a draft of your assignment, revise and edit your work to strengthen your ideas.**

Character Based Literacy Program Writing Prompt

Animal Farm, Final Writing Product



Key Paragraph, p. 135-136

“...They had been nervous about the effects upon their own animals, or even upon their human employees. But all such doubts were now dispelled. Today he and his friends had visited Animal Farm and inspected every inch of it with their own eyes, and what did they find? Not only the most up-to-date methods, but a discipline and an orderliness which should be an example to all farmers everywhere. He believed that he was right in saying that the lower animals on Animal Farm did more work and received less food than any animals in the county. Indeed, he and his fellow-visitors today had observed many features which they intended to introduce on their own farms immediately” (p. 135-136).

Writing Prompt

In *Animal Farm*, Orwell parallels the story of Russia’s Communist revolution under Vladimir Lenin, through the expulsion and murder of Leon Trotsky, into the creation Totalitarian State under Joseph Stalin. In doing so, he warns the reader of the human tendency towards class stratification. He further warns the reader that the ruling class will use the power of language and propaganda to further manipulate the social order to their advantage. He points out pitfalls of the working class, such as ignorance, self-centeredness, and laziness. His message is not so much that this thirst for power could take place, but rather that it is taking place and must be combated. If ignorance, self-centeredness, greed and laziness are the pitfalls, then education, the protection of workers’ rights, compassion for others, a commitment to justice, and a commitment to thinking things through before you act are ways of avoiding being taken advantage of.

Your final writing project is to write an explanatory essay in which you describe your support of **education, workers’ rights, justice, or thinking things through**. **How do these qualities display integrity? Your arguments should be logical in their approach, but also appeal to the reader’s emotions. You should reference incidents and quotations from the novel to support your opinion, as well as your own personal experiences. You should also appeal to commonly accepted beliefs. Include a concession, and avoid using arguments based on “unclear thinking.” Include an introduction and a conclusion. Remember to place your best arguments at the beginning and end of your essay. During the process of writing this assignment, take time to revise, reflect and edit your work to strengthen the quality of your writing and organization of ideas.**