

Chapter V

1. Mollie's disappearance not only indicates her desire to receive special treatment at the hands of human beings, but also functions as a reminder of the dangers of forced obedience and the requirement of conformity. Explain how her disappearance forms part of Orwell's criticism of the emerging totalitarian structure of Animal Farm.

2. In the growing dispute between Snowball and Napoleon, how does Snowball hope to gain the trust and support of the other animals? What is Napoleon's tactic?

3. What are Snowball's ideas for defending Animal Farm against possible human attacks? What are Napoleon's ideas?

4. Why does Snowball so fervently advocate the building of the windmill?

5. How can you explain the fact that no animal comes to Snowball's defense after Napoleon calls on his vicious attack dogs and chases Snowball out of the barn? Keep in mind that the animals are clearly in the majority compared to Napoleon's gang.

6. After Snowball's expulsion, Napoleon explains the changes he plans to implement on Animal Farm immediately. How do these changes reflect the principles of a totalitarian/authoritarian state?

7. Squealer describes Napoleon's suddenly changing attitude toward the windmill as "tactics." What does he mean by that? What might be a more accurate and truthful description of Napoleon's tactics?

Chapter VI

1. What effect is achieved through the use of simile in the opening lines of Chapter VI, “all that year the animals worked like slaves”? How does the simile help to underline Orwell’s criticism?

2. How does Boxer illustrate his dedication to the work on the windmill, despite all challenges?

3. Why does Napoleon claim he must begin trading with the neighboring farms?

4. Every time the animals notice that the pigs are “adjusting” the rules agreed upon after the Rebellion, their thoughts are distracted by the chanting of “four legs good, two legs bad” by the sheep. Why are the sheep so eager to say their slogan? To what extent are the sheep aware of the effect they have on the other animals and on life on Animal Farm by repeating the slogan again and again?

5. Why was it absolutely necessary for Napoleon to rid himself of Snowball?

6. How does the attitude of the human beings toward Animal Farm change once Napoleon enters into trade with neighboring farms?

7. Why do the pigs change the Fourth Commandment from “No animal shall sleep in a bed” to “No animal shall sleep in a bed *with sheets*”?

8. How does Squealer justify the pigs' use of the farmhouse?

9. Why is the windmill destroyed? What is the pigs' explanation? Why is this explanation necessary?
