



## Animal Farm Allegory

An **allegory** is a work of fiction in which characters, events, and actions have a symbolic, deeper meaning in addition to their literal meaning. Allegories are used for many purposes, including to teach lessons, share general truths, and critique politics.

*Animal Farm* is an allegorical novel that uses events and people involved in the Russian Revolution and the rise of a communist dictatorship in the Soviet Union to document not only what happened there, but also how authoritarian governments develop and take root in general. But while the events and characters in the book have distinct historical counterparts, they also have a much more universal symbolism. The animals all represent different types of people that can be found in societies all over the world and throughout history.

You will find two lists below. The list on the left names some of the characters from *Animal Farm*. The list on the right describes different types of people. Draw lines to match the characters with their allegorical counterparts.

After you complete the matching, answer the questions that follow.

|              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Napoleon     | the law enforcer           |
| Boxer        | the follower               |
| Farmer Jones | the monarch                |
| Squealer     | the peasant                |
| Mollie       | the totalitarian leader    |
| Old Major    | the religious believer     |
| Moses        | the working-class member   |
| Snowball     | the spreader of propaganda |
| A dog        | the revolutionary          |
| A sheep      | the upper-class member     |
| A hen        | the scapegoat              |

W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

## Answer Key

Napoleon - the totalitarian leader

Boxer - the working-class member

Farmer Jones - the monarch

Squealer - the spreader of propaganda

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