

# Lesson Guide

<p><b>Do Now:</b> How are the pigs more intelligent than the other animals? Give 3 examples</p> <p><b>Extension:</b> In what ways have the pigs misused their superior intelligence? Is this true of all pigs?</p>	
<p><b>Vocabulary work</b> Introduce the word <b>treacherous</b>. Students to complete the quiz. Which sentences use the word <b>treacherous</b> accurately?</p>	
<p><b>Reading 1</b> Read from, 'Boxer's split hoof ...' Read to, 'Crown Derby soup tureen.' <b>Check for understanding</b> Comprehension questions</p> <p><b>Reading 2</b> Read from, 'But if there were hardships ...' Read to '... good bed of straw for him.' <b>Check for understanding</b> Comprehension questions</p>	<p>Use glossaries to support teaching.</p> <p><b>ALLOW 20 MINS FOR ALL OF THE READING.</b></p>
<p><b>Discussion</b> Students read A and B statements. Which statement do you agree with? List down in bullet points your reasons for agreeing with that statement.</p>	
<p><b>Mastery quiz</b> Students complete mastery quiz</p>	



# Treachery

Thursday, 26 May 2022

**How are the pigs more intelligent than the other animals? Give three examples.**

Do Now



**Extension:** How have the pigs misused their superior intelligence? Is this true of all the pigs?

- The original idea for a farm where animals worked for themselves was Old Major's (Old Major was a pig).
- Snowball, Napoleon and Squealer created Animalism and taught it to the other animals.
- The pigs had taught themselves to read and write before the Rebellion.
- Snowball came up with the idea for the windmill.

## Extension

Apart from Snowball and Old Major, all the pigs on Animal Farm seem committed to improving their own lives at the cost of the other animals.

Napoleon, in particular, has stolen and lied. Squealer's job is to convince the other animals that their situation is much better than it seems, and a lot better than when Mr Jones was in charge.

Here is a word that we will be able to use to describe the pigs in this chapter:

## **treacherous**

If you betray someone who trusts you, you could be described as **treacherous**.



Which of these sentences use **treacherous** accurately?

1. It was **treacherous** of you to tell the teacher that I hadn't done my homework.
2. We were lied to by a group of **treacherous**.
3. Caliban was **treacherous** when he attempted to assault Miranda. She trusted him.
4. I don't trust her. I think she will **treacherous** us in the future.
5. The prawns I had for dinner were **treacherous**! They looked and tasted lovely, but they gave me terrible food poisoning.



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The animals were able to fend off an attack from the local farmer, Frederick.

However, they suffered badly, and five animals died in the fight. Most animals were injured.

Boxer split his hoof and was shot a number of times.

Frederick and his men destroyed the windmill.

**The next chapter is about Boxer.**

**Let's find out what happens.**

**Read from the start of Chapter 9, 'Boxer's split hoof...'**

**Read to, '... in the Crown Derby soup tureen.'**

Boxer's split hoof was a long time in healing. They had started the rebuilding of the windmill the day after the victory celebrations were ended. Boxer refused to take even a day off work, and made it a point of honour not to let it be seen that he was in pain. In the evenings he would admit privately to Clover that the hoof troubled him a great deal. Clover treated the hoof with poultices of herbs which she prepared by chewing them, and both she and Benjamin urged Boxer to work less hard. "A horse's lungs do not last for ever," she said to him. But Boxer would not listen. He had, he said, only one real ambition left--to see the windmill well under way before he reached the age for retirement.

At the beginning, when the laws of Animal Farm were first formulated, the retiring age had been fixed for horses and pigs at twelve, for cows at fourteen, for dogs at nine, for sheep at seven, and for hens and geese at five. Liberal old-age pensions had been agreed upon. As yet no animal had actually retired on pension, but of late the subject had been discussed more and more.

**poultice** – a soft wrap applied to help soreness and swelling

**formulated** - planned

**liberal** – generous  
**pension** – money given to the elderly

Now that the small field beyond the orchard had been set aside for barley, it was rumoured that a corner of the large pasture was to be fenced off and turned into a grazing-ground for superannuated animals. For a horse, it was said, the pension would be five pounds of corn a day and, in winter, fifteen pounds of hay, with a carrot or possibly an apple on public holidays. Boxer's twelfth birthday was due in the late summer of the following year.

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.

**superannuated** – no longer able to work

**rations** – amount of food allowed

**readjustment** - change

Reading out the figures in a shrill, rapid voice, he proved to them in detail that they had more oats, more hay, more turnips than they had had in Jones's day, that they worked shorter hours, that their drinking water was of better quality, that they lived longer, that a larger proportion of their young ones survived infancy, and that they had more straw in their stalls and suffered less from fleas. The animals believed every word of it. Truth to tell, Jones and all he stood for had almost faded out of their memories. They knew that life nowadays was harsh and bare, that they were often hungry and often cold, and that they were usually working when they were not asleep. But doubtless it had been worse in the old days. They were glad to believe so. Besides, in those days they had been slaves and now they were free, and that made all the difference, as Squealer did not fail to point out.

**shrill** – high pitched, often unpleasant

There were many more mouths to feed now. In the autumn the four sows had all littered about simultaneously, producing thirty-one young pigs between them. The young pigs were piebald, and as Napoleon was the only boar on the farm, it was possible to guess at their parentage. It was announced that later, when bricks and timber had been purchased, a schoolroom would be built in the farmhouse garden. For the time being, the young pigs were given their instruction by Napoleon himself in the farmhouse kitchen. They took their exercise in the garden, and were discouraged from playing with the other young animals. About this time, too, it was laid down as a rule that when a pig and any other animal met on the path, the other animal must stand aside: and also that all pigs, of whatever degree, were to have the privilege of wearing green ribbons on their tails on Sundays.

The farm had had a fairly successful year, but was still short of money. There were the bricks, sand, and lime for the schoolroom to be purchased, and it would also be necessary to begin saving up again for the machinery for the windmill.

**simultaneously** – at the same time  
**piebald** – two different colours of hair

**degree** - level  
**privilege** – opportunity to do or have something special

Then there were lamp oil and candles for the house, sugar for Napoleon's own table (he forbade this to the other pigs, on the ground that it made them fat), and all the usual replacements such as tools, nails, string, coal, wire, scrap-iron, and dog biscuits. A stump of hay and part of the potato crop were sold off, and the contract for eggs was increased to six hundred a week, so that that year the hens barely hatched enough chicks to keep their numbers at the same level. Rations, reduced in December, were reduced again in February, and lanterns in the stalls were forbidden to save oil. But the pigs seemed comfortable enough, and in fact were putting on weight if anything. One afternoon in late February a warm, rich, appetising scent, such as the animals had never smelt before, wafted itself across the yard from the little brew-house, which had been disused in Jones's time, and which stood beyond the kitchen. Someone said it was the smell of cooking barley. The animals sniffed the air hungrily and wondered whether a warm mash was being prepared for their supper. But no warm mash appeared, and on the following Sunday it was announced that from now onwards all barley would be reserved for the pigs.

**forbade** – did not allow

**appetising** – looks or smells as if it would taste good

**wafted** – moved through the air

# Reading

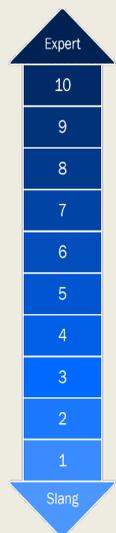
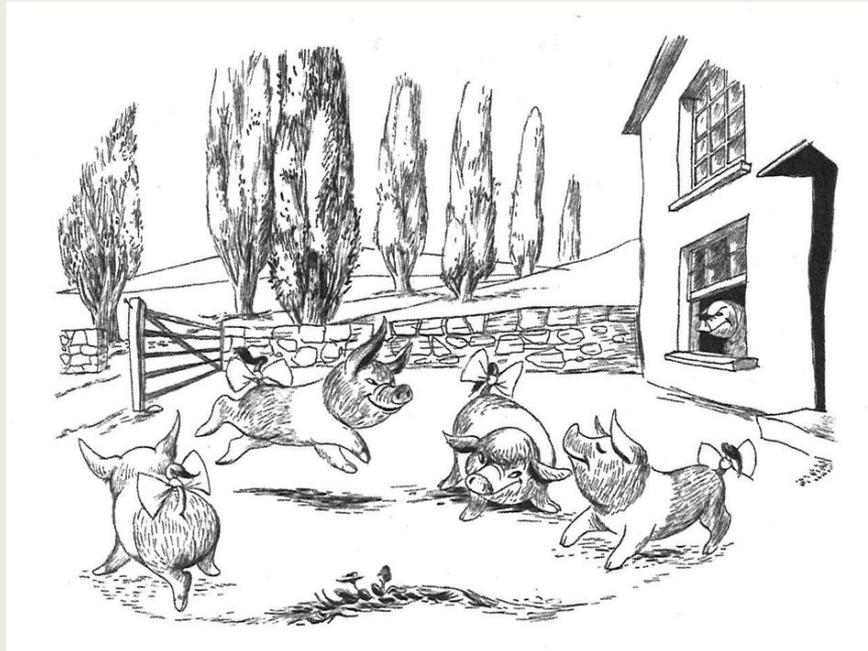
The field beyond the orchard had already been sown with barley. And the news soon leaked out that every pig was now receiving a ration of a pint of beer daily, with half a gallon for Napoleon himself, which was always served to him in the Crown Derby soup tureen.

**tureen** – large bowl



## Discuss these questions in pairs.

1. Why do the pigs reserve a field for barley?
2. What was the field meant to be used for?
3. There is a 'readjustment' of the animal's food rations. What does this mean?
4. What privileges do the pigs get?
5. In what ways have the pigs been treacherous?



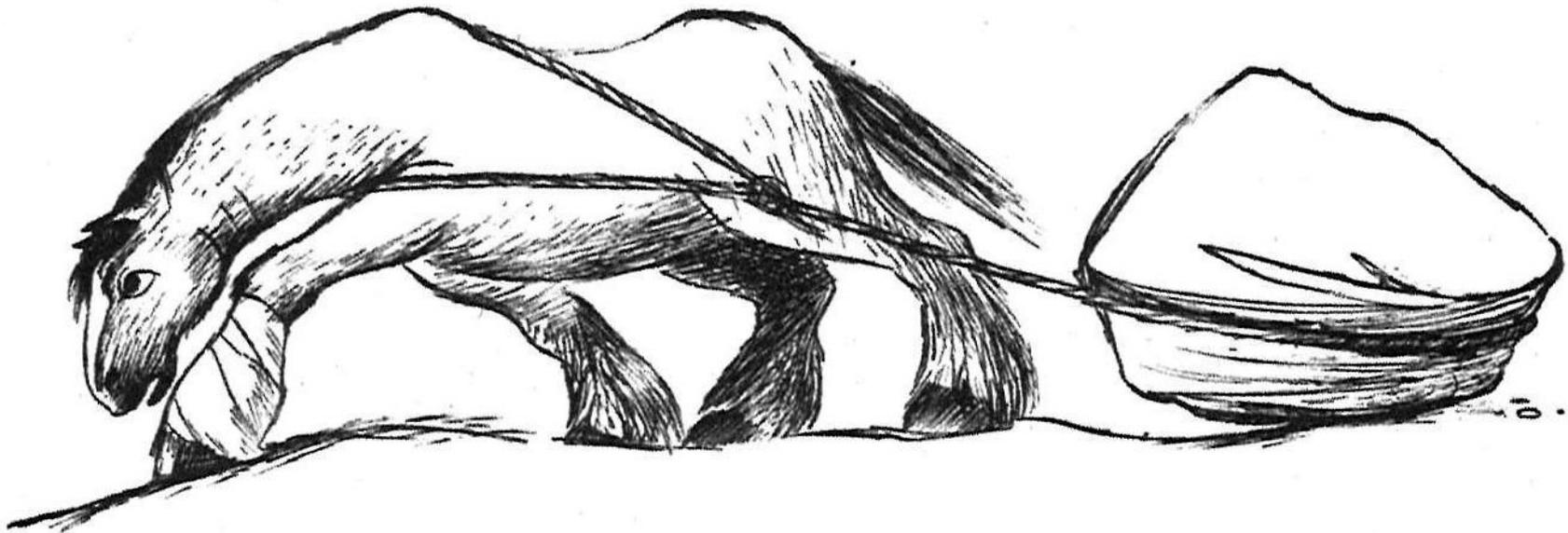
1. The pigs reserve a field for barley so they can start brewing beer.
2. The field was meant to be used for the animals' retirements. No animal has yet retired, although Boxer is close to retiring.
3. The pigs use the word 'readjustment' instead of saying that the animals' rations have been reduced. They want to avoid saying that the animals are getting less food.
4. The pigs get more food, and start to grow fatter. They also build a school for the piglets. The pigs are also allowed to wear ribbons on Sundays. Also, all other animals must stand aside if they meet a pig on a path.
5. The pigs are buying expensive, luxurious items for themselves while continuing to sell off the animals' produce. The animals think that they are being prepared a warm mash for supper but, in fact, it is just the smell of the pigs brewing their own beer!

Boxer is injured, but still wants to work on the farm.

**Let's find out what happens to Boxer next.**

**Read from,** 'But if there were hardships to be borne...'

**Read to,** '... where Clover and Benjamin had prepared a good bed of straw for him.'



But if there were hardships to be borne, they were partly offset by the fact that life nowadays had a greater dignity than it had had before. There were more songs, more speeches, more processions. Napoleon had commanded that once a week there should be held something called a Spontaneous Demonstration, the object of which was to celebrate the struggles and triumphs of Animal Farm. At the appointed time the animals would leave their work and march round the precincts of the farm in military formation, with the pigs leading, then the horses, then the cows, then the sheep, and then the poultry. The dogs flanked the procession and at the head of all marched Napoleon's black cockerel. Boxer and Clover always carried between them a green banner marked with the hoof and the horn and the caption, "Long live Comrade Napoleon!"

**offset** - balanced

**spontaneous** -  
unplanned

**flanked** – walked  
on both sides

Afterwards there were recitations of poems composed in Napoleon's honour, and a speech by Squealer giving particulars of the latest increases in the production of foodstuffs, and on occasion a shot was fired from the gun. The sheep were the greatest devotees of the Spontaneous Demonstration, and if anyone complained (as a few animals sometimes did, when no pigs or dogs were near) that they wasted time and meant a lot of standing about in the cold, the sheep were sure to silence him with a tremendous bleating of "Four legs good, two legs bad!" But by and large the animals enjoyed these celebrations. They found it comforting to be reminded that, after all, they were truly their own masters and that the work they did was for their own benefit. So that, what with the songs, the processions, Squealer's lists of figures, the thunder of the gun, the crowing of the cockerel, and the fluttering of the flag, they were able to forget that their bellies were empty, at least part of the time.

**recitations** – saying aloud by memory

**devotee** – likes something a great deal

In April, Animal Farm was proclaimed a Republic, and it became necessary to elect a President. There was only one candidate, Napoleon, who was elected unanimously. On the same day it was given out that fresh documents had been discovered which revealed further details about Snowball's complicity with Jones. It now appeared that Snowball had not, as the animals had previously imagined, merely attempted to lose the Battle of the Cowshed by means of a stratagem, but had been openly fighting on Jones's side. In fact, it was he who had actually been the leader of the human forces, and had charged into battle with the words "Long live Humanity!" on his lips. The wounds on Snowball's back, which a few of the animals still remembered to have seen, had been inflicted by Napoleon's teeth.

In the middle of the summer Moses the raven suddenly reappeared on the farm, after an absence of several years. He was quite unchanged, still did no work, and talked in the same strain as ever about Sugarcandy Mountain. He would perch on a stump, flap his black wings, and talk by the hour to anyone who would listen.

**Republic** – a country without a king but an elected leader  
**unanimously** – agreed by everyone  
**complicity** – the fact of being involved in something wrong  
**stratagem** - plan

"Up there, comrades," he would say solemnly, pointing to the sky with his large beak--"up there, just on the other side of that dark cloud that you can see--there it lies, Sugarcandy Mountain, that happy country where we poor animals shall rest for ever from our labours!" He even claimed to have been there on one of his higher flights, and to have seen the everlasting fields of clover and the linseed cake and lump sugar growing on the hedges. Many of the animals believed him. Their lives now, they reasoned, were hungry and laborious; was it not right and just that a better world should exist somewhere else? A thing that was difficult to determine was the attitude of the pigs towards Moses. They all declared contemptuously that his stories about Sugarcandy Mountain were lies, and yet they allowed him to remain on the farm, not working, with an allowance of a gill of beer a day.

After his hoof had healed up, Boxer worked harder than ever. Indeed, all the animals worked like slaves that year. Apart from the regular work of the farm, and the rebuilding of the windmill, there was the schoolhouse for the young pigs, which was started in March.

**contemptuously** – showing that you do not respect something or someone

Sometimes the long hours on insufficient food were hard to bear, but Boxer never faltered. In nothing that he said or did was there any sign that his strength was not what it had been. It was only his appearance that was a little altered; his hide was less shiny than it had used to be, and his great haunches seemed to have shrunken. The others said, "Boxer will pick up when the spring grass comes on"; but the spring came and Boxer grew no fatter. Sometimes on the slope leading to the top of the quarry, when he braced his muscles against the weight of some vast boulder, it seemed that nothing kept him on his feet except the will to continue. At such times his lips were seen to form the words, "I will work harder"; he had no voice left. Once again Clover and Benjamin warned him to take care of his health, but Boxer paid no attention. His twelfth birthday was approaching. He did not care what happened so long as a good store of stone was accumulated before he went on pension.

Late one evening in the summer, a sudden rumour ran round the farm that something had happened to Boxer. He had gone out alone to drag a load of stone down to the windmill.

**faltered** – stopped or showed signs of weakness  
**haunches** – back legs

**accumulated** - gathered

And sure enough, the rumour was true. A few minutes later two pigeons came racing in with the news; "Boxer has fallen! He is lying on his side and can't get up!"

About half the animals on the farm rushed out to the knoll where the windmill stood. There lay Boxer, between the shafts of the cart, his neck stretched out, unable even to raise his head. His eyes were glazed, his sides matted with sweat. A thin stream of blood had trickled out of his mouth. Clover dropped to her knees at his side.

"Boxer!" she cried, "how are you?"

"It is my lung," said Boxer in a weak voice. "It does not matter. I think you will be able to finish the windmill without me. There is a pretty good store of stone accumulated. I had only another month to go in any case. To tell you the truth, I had been looking forward to my retirement. And perhaps, as Benjamin is growing old too, they will let him retire at the same time and be a companion to me."

"We must get help at once," said Clover. "Run, somebody, and tell Squealer what has happened."

All the other animals immediately raced back to the farmhouse to give Squealer the news. Only Clover remained, and Benjamin who lay down at Boxer's side, and, without speaking, kept the flies off him with his long tail. After about a quarter of an hour Squealer appeared, full of sympathy and concern. He said that Comrade Napoleon had learned with the very deepest distress of this misfortune to one of the most loyal workers on the farm, and was already making arrangements to send Boxer to be treated in the hospital at Willingdon. The animals felt a little uneasy at this. Except for Mollie and Snowball, no other animal had ever left the farm, and they did not like to think of their sick comrade in the hands of human beings. However, Squealer easily convinced them that the veterinary surgeon in Willingdon could treat Boxer's case more satisfactorily than could be done on the farm. And about half an hour later, when Boxer had somewhat recovered, he was with difficulty got on to his feet, and managed to limp back to his stall, where Clover and Benjamin had prepared a good bed of straw for him.

**veterinary  
surgeon** – vet,  
someone who  
treats animals



## Discuss these questions in pairs.

1. The pigs continue to spread **propaganda** about Snowball. How do they say Snowball received the wounds on his back?
2. What has happened to Boxer?
3. We know that the pigs are **treacherous**. What do you think is going to happen to Boxer?



1. The pigs say that Snowball was actually fighting for Jones. The blood the animals saw was from where Napoleon fought and bit him.
2. Boxer begins to grow weaker as he grows older. He is not as strong as he once was. He still tries to work as hard as he did when he was younger, but one evening, he collapses after straining himself too hard. He rests in his stall.
3. What do you think?

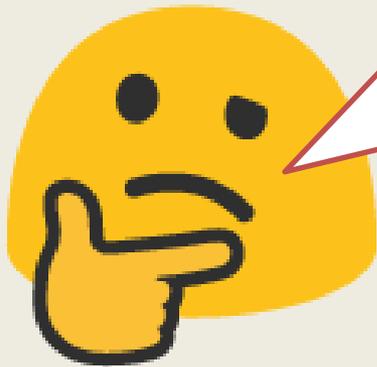
Will Boxer enjoy a long and peaceful retirement with his old friend Benjamin, or will the pigs rob him of this as well?





Here are two statements about the pigs' leadership on Animal Farm.

A. The other animals should complain about the pigs' behaviour and stop them from taking advantage of their hard labour.



B. Animal Farm should be led by the pigs because they are more intelligent than the other animals. The pigs are selfish but they are still better leaders than Farmer Jones.

Which statement do you agree with?

- List down in bullet points your reasons for agreeing with that statement.
- You may want to refer to your knowledge of 'Animal Farm' and of George Orwell.

# The pigs are the most intelligent animals on the farm. How are they using their superior intelligence?

- a) They make careful calculations to share everything equally among every animal on the farm.
- b) They award themselves privileges while reducing the rations of the other animals.
- c) They make long-term plans for honouring the laws of retirement that had been laid out when Animal Farm started.
- d) They tell lies to the animals about how much better life is for them since Jones's day.
- e) They thoughtfully cook warm mash for the other animals' supper.

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# English Mastery

Love the lesson? Have some suggestions for improvements? Noticed a mistake or an error?

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