

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

During these chapters, Napoleon breaks more of the 7 commandments.

Question Part 1:

"A Mr Whympster, a solicitor living in Willingdon, had agreed to act as intermediary between Animal Farm and the outside world, and would visit the farm every Monday morning to receive his instructions."

"Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy."

Q: What effects of the interactions with humans and the outside world have on Animal Farm and what will the impacts of breaking this commandment mean for the farm and the revolution?

My answer: One of the main points of Animal Farm is that they function without any humans and they tried (and succeeded) to remove Mr. Jones and the other workers from the farm. By interacting with another human, who even comes to their farm, it breaks the commandment, which is kind of a fundamental for how the farm works. By connecting to the rest of the world, information will spread, whether it's living conditions for

animals outside their farm or humans and animals outside the farm learning about or joining or trying to stop the farm and the revolution. As well, a lot of revolutions end with the leaders/highest powers similar to how it was before, so maybe Mr. Whymper will end up replacing the position of how Mr. Jones was.

Question Part 2:

"It was about this time that the pigs suddenly moved into the farmhouse and took up their residence there. Again the animals seemed to remember that a resolution against this had been passed in the early days, and again Squealer was able to convince them that this was not the case."

"Nevertheless some of the animals were disturbed when they heard that the pigs not only took their meals in the kitchen and used the drawing-room as a recreation room, but also slept in the beds."

"It says, "No animal shall sleep in a bed with sheets'" she announced finally.

Curiously enough, Clover had not remembered that the Fourth Commandment mentioned sheets; but as it was there on the wall, it must have done so."

"And when, some days afterwards, it was announced that from now on the pigs would get up an hour later in

the mornings than the other animals, no complaint was made about that either."

"No animal shall sleep in a bed."

The pigs not only break, but change one of the commandments, and this time the animals start to notice.

Q: How will the realization of the injustices between the pigs and the other animals affect the support and function of Animal Farm and Napoleon?

My answer: As the animals start to realize the unfairness between the power levels and the pigs on animal farm, they are already starting to question the equality and their leader. For example, Clover recalls the commandment being different and checks with Muriel and the hens protest their eggs being traded. As well, when Napoleon is using fear (when he killed many of the animals) to enforce his power.

Question Part 3:

"When they had finished their confession the dogs promptly tore their throats out, and in a terrible voice Napoleon demanded whether any other animal had anything to confess."

"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."

"No animal shall kill any other animal."

This is by far the most drastic commandment that Napoleon has broken so far.

Q: Why did he decide to do this and what will happen when the animals realize the broken commandment and see the lives lost?

My answer: Like said above, by killing those who weren't loyal to him in front of everyone, Napoleon is showing everyone the consequences of being a traitor and using fear to enforce and make sure nobody challenges his power or betrays him. For some of the more minor broken commandments, the animals questioned it temporarily but moved on pretty quickly, however this is much more major. The threat of death could lead to animals revolting against the system, or running away from the farm, which would backfire on Napoleon's reasons for murdering the animals.

Question: What are underlying motives that Snowball and his helpers have for destroying the windmill and messing with farms?

My answer: The most surface level reason for Snowball's actions towards the farm, is a way of getting revenge on Napoleon and the rest of Animal Farm for kicking him out. It could also be a way of weakening Animal Farm so that he or others can take over. As well, it is revealed that Snowball and his supporters are agents for Mr. Jones and the neighbour, Mr. Frederick, who want to take (back) over the farm. If animals become tired of doing so much work and see the injustices between their labour and the work of the pigs, they might start to question their support for Napoleon and Animal Farm.