Animal Farm – George Orwell (1945)

Chapter 1:

- 1. Begin a character sketch of the following:
 - a. Boxer
 - b. Clover
 - c. Benjamin
 - d. Major
- 2. Explain why Major says that the animals must "work night and day, body and soul, for the overthrow of the human race." Describe the problems the animals have been facing.
- 3. What is an *anthem*? What is its purpose? Explain how "Beasts of England" fits the definition of an anthem.

Chapter 2:

- 1. Begin a character sketch of the following:
 - a. Napoleon
 - b. Snowball
 - c. Squealer
- 2. Explain the reasoning behind the following commandments:
 - a. No animal shall wear clothes.
 - b. No animal shall sleep in a bed.
 - c. No animal shall drink alcohol.
- 3. This chapter ends with the disappearance of the day's milk. Explain how this *may* foreshadow trouble.

Chapter 3:

- 1. Provide specific examples of how the animals respond to the task of getting in the harvest now that the humans are gone.
- 2. Explain how the animals spend Sundays.
- 3. Give a few examples of how the pigs are gradually acquiring privileges for themselves.
- 4. Briefly summarize Squealer's explanation for the pigs' use of the milk and apples. Which part of his explanation is the most effective in convincing the other animals to agree?

Chapter 4:

1. What is the Battle of the Cowshed? Explain how this event helped strengthen the bond between the animals. Make sure to give examples to support your answer.

Chapter 5:

- 1. We know that this story is an allegory of the Russian Revolution, and that most of the animals represent either specific people or *types* of people. What type of person does Molly seem to represent?
- 2. Re-read the paragraphs which show Napoleon's reaction to Snowball's windmill plans.
 - a. What hint is there that he actually sees the merits of the idea?
 - b. Why doesn't he bother to make an argument against the windmill at the meeting?
- 3. Explain what the following excerpt suggests about Napoleon's character and how he is shaping the future of Animal Farm: "It was noticed that they wagged their tails to him in the same way as the other dogs had been used to do to Mr. Jones" (29).