

Modern World History Summer Reading

Animal Farm

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Required Reading: Animal Farm (George Orwell)

Directions: This assignment is to be completed individually. You may not use any online tools/resources available to help you analyze this book (i.e. Sparknotes, Wikipedia, AI, etc). All responses in regard to the book are to come from your own reflections on this reading (i.e. you should not go on the internet to try and find a shortcut). Evidence of this will be considered an academic integrity violation.

Summer Reading Assignment:

Please actively read Animal Farm (annotating, writing down thoughts/comments, marking important quotes etc.). There will be an assignment/discussion the first week of class where you will need to utilize your book and your notes. Be prepared to answer the following questions with detailed evidence:

1. One of the main themes of this year's studies will be various types of political and economic systems. George Orwell intends this book to be a criticism of Totalitarianism and Socialism. We are using this book as an introduction to these themes.

- You should be able to define these terms and be ready to discuss during class: Totalitarianism and Socialism.
- While reading, take notes/mark quotes on examples of totalitarian and socialist concepts as you find them throughout the book. These are tricky concepts, don't worry if you're not 100% sure, just try your best!

2. Find quotes/ideas from the book on how this story demonstrates the deprivation of rights of the people (animals) being used to achieve cooperation from the masses.

3. Power corrupts, but absolute power corrupts absolutely. A leaders' ability to make decisions and wield authority is a central theme in Animal Farm. Be ready to discuss how power corrupts (hint: trace the corruption of the pigs and their lure of power over the others).

4. Reflection: be ready to discuss your overall thoughts of the book, including likes, dislikes, what ideas you found relevant to the world today, and what parts of the book really resonated with you.