

Animal Farm

Chapters 5–7

by George Orwell

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: attribute, bleating, conjured up, cowered, cryptic, factions, grudged, in league with, laborious, reconciled

PRE-READING ACTIVITY

Vocabulary Preview 2

Answer Key — Preview 3

Caution: share only if self-checking

OPTIONAL POST-READING QUIZ

Vocabulary in Context 4

Answer Key — In Context 5

Caution: do not share with students

About the Pre-Reading Activity (open-dictionary; ungraded or completion grade):

Students preview 10 words from the upcoming reading, each in a sentence that supports understanding. They choose the best meaning from 3 choices.

About the Optional Post-Reading Quiz (use after reading, or skip):

Same words, now in real excerpts from the text, with questions that build reading and analytical skills.

Vocabulary Sections for this Book:

Section 1 · Chapters 1–4 · Old Major's dream on Manor Farm

Section 2 · Chapters 5–7 · Rivalry over the windmill plan

Section 3 · Chapters 8–10 · The farm under Napoleon's rule

Bold = this section. Other sections are available at verbalworkout.com.



verbalworkout.com

(all resources free)

Vocabulary Preview

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Read each prompt. Then choose the best meaning for the bold word.

1. Scientists **attribute** the warming climate to human activity.

- A. adjust in response to
- B. credit as the cause
- C. compare as similar to

2. The lost lamb kept **bleating** for its mother.

- A. shivering in the cold
- B. searching all around
- C. crying out in a sheep's voice

3. The old song **conjured up** memories of her childhood summers.

- A. called up vividly in the mind
- B. brought back to physical life
- C. captured in a lasting record

4. The puppy **cowered** under the table during the loud thunderstorm.

- A. paced about nervously
- B. barked loudly in warning
- C. crouched down in fear

5. The old map was covered in **cryptic** symbols no one could decode.

- A. puzzling and hard to interpret
- B. elegant and finely drawn
- C. ancient and rarely used

6. The political party split into several **factions** before the election.

- A. separate voting districts
- B. rival groups within a community
- C. smaller committees or teams

7. She **grudged** every penny she had to lend her careless brother.

- A. gave only with reluctance
- B. counted out very carefully
- C. demanded back in full

8. The detective suspected the guard was **in league with** the thieves.

- A. keeping close watch on
- B. secretly allied with
- C. in open competition with

9. Copying the entire report by hand was a **laborious** task.

- A. needing careful planning
- B. requiring great skill
- C. requiring great effort

10. After months of disappointment, she slowly **reconciled** herself to a quieter life.

- A. brought to accept something unwelcome
- B. driven to give up all hope
- C. stirred to open anger

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

moonshine — foolish talk; empty nonsense

article of faith — a belief held as absolutely certain

malignity — intense spite; deep malice

ignominious — shameful; humiliating

infanticide — the killing of infants

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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#	KEY
1	B
2	C
3	A
4	C
5	A
6	B
7	A
8	B
9	C
10	A

Vocabulary in Context

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Name _____ Date _____ Period _____ Score _____ / 10

Read each excerpt carefully. Then choose the best answer to each question.

1 "Of late the sheep had taken to bleating 'Four legs good, two legs bad' both in and out of season, and they often interrupted the Meeting with this."

As used in the passage, 'bleating' tells us the sheep were...

- A. quietly whispering the slogan
- B. crying the slogan out in sheep's voices
- C. singing the slogan in unison

2 "... they listened in astonishment while Snowball conjured up pictures of fantastic machines which would do their work for them while they grazed at their ease in the fields or improved their minds with reading and conversation."

As he 'conjured up' pictures of fantastic machines, Snowball is characterized as...

- A. a careful, practical planner
- B. a stern, forceful commander
- C. a captivating visionary

3 "The animals formed themselves into two factions under the slogan, 'Vote for Snowball and the three-day week' and 'Vote for Napoleon and the full manger.'"

According to the passage, the animals...

- A. split into two rival camps
- B. held a vote to settle it
- C. agreed to share power evenly

4 "But they were happy in their work; they grudged no effort or sacrifice, well aware that everything that they did was for the benefit of themselves and those of their kind who would come after them, not for a pack of idle, thieving human beings."

As used in the passage, the phrase 'grudged no effort' most nearly means the animals...

- A. carefully saved their strength
- B. often forgot to do their tasks
- C. worked hard without complaining

5 "Nevertheless, the sight of Napoleon, on all fours, delivering orders to Whymper, who stood on two legs, roused their pride and partly reconciled them to the new arrangement."

It can reasonably be inferred from 'partly reconciled them' that the animals...

- A. had openly defied Napoleon's orders
- B. had welcomed it proudly from the start
- C. still had doubts about the arrangement

6 "Only old Benjamin refused to grow enthusiastic about the windmill, though, as usual, he would utter nothing beyond the cryptic remark that donkeys live a long time."

In the passage, Benjamin, with his 'cryptic' remark, is characterized as...

- A. mysterious and hard to read
- B. openly scornful of the windmill
- C. confused by the windmill plans

7 "Yes, there it lay, the fruit of all their struggles, levelled to its foundations, the stones they had broken and carried so laboriously scattered all around."

The author most likely includes the phrase 'so laboriously' in order to...

- A. explain how the stones were broken
- B. stress how much effort was undone
- C. show the walls were poorly built

8 "Whenever anything went wrong it became usual to attribute it to Snowball."

According to the passage, whenever anything went wrong, it became usual to...

- A. ask Napoleon to investigate
- B. place the blame on Snowball
- C. call on Snowball to repair it

9 "Snowball was in league with Jones from the very start! He was Jones's secret agent all the time."

In the excerpt, the charge that Snowball was 'in league with' Jones functions mainly to...

- A. brand Snowball a lifelong traitor
- B. explain how Jones lost the farm
- C. warn that Jones may soon return

10 "They all cowered silently in their places, seeming to know in advance that some terrible thing was about to happen."

According to the passage, as they waited for what was coming, the animals...

- A. shrank back in fear
- B. bowed their heads respectfully
- C. stood rigid, and tall

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	B	The answer depends upon the literal meaning of <i>bleating</i> —a sheep’s cry. That was the meaning introduced in the preview. Applied to human speech, however, the word is pejorative, suggesting foolish or repetitive complaining (“quit bleating about it”). Advanced students may appreciate knowing that Orwell draws on both senses.
2	C	
3	A	
4	C	
5	C	
6	A	
7	B	
8	B	
9	A	The charge is Squealer’s fabrication; the question asks what the accusation does, not whether it is true.
10	A	

Teacher Context: Chapters 5–7

Snowball and Napoleon clash over the windmill until Napoleon’s dogs drive Snowball out and Napoleon takes sole control; the animals labor through hardship while Napoleon consolidates power through fear, forced confessions, and executions. Grouped as the chapters of Napoleon’s rise and the first terror.