

Animal Farm

Chapters 8–10

by George Orwell

Pre-Reading Vocabulary Practice

Optional Post-Reading Quiz Included

Practice words: abolished, braced, decree, eminent, forgeries, gratified, occupation, readjustment, spontaneous, sprawling

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.*



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(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. The new principal **abolished** the rule against wearing hats indoors.

- A. quietly ignored
- B. formally put an end to
- C. openly criticized

2. She **braced** herself against the railing as the ferry rocked hard.

- A. spun quickly around
- B. slid slowly downward
- C. tensed and steadied firmly

3. The king issued a **decree** that all shops must close on holidays.

- A. a stern warning
- B. an official order
- C. a polite request

4. The **eminent** scientist was invited to speak at universities worldwide.

- A. distinguished and important
- B. young and hardworking
- C. well traveled abroad

5. The museum discovered that several of its paintings were **forges**.

- A. fakes made to look genuine
- B. gifts from wealthy donors
- C. copies damaged over time

6. She felt **gratified** when her hard work finally earned high praise.

- A. amused and entertained
- B. pleased and satisfied
- C. eager for more attention

7. Enemy troops kept the small country under **occupation** for three long years.

- A. forced control of a place
- B. constant close watch
- C. heavy new taxes and fees

8. After the storm, the town announced a **readjustment** of its bus schedule.

- A. a return to the old timetable
- B. an addition of several new stops
- C. a change to fit new conditions

9. The crowd broke into **spontaneous** cheers as the runner crossed the line.

- A. unplanned and natural
- B. loud and enthusiastic
- C. started by the team captain

10. The cat was **sprawling** across the warm kitchen floor in the sun.

- A. stalking a small mouse
- B. grooming its fur carefully
- C. lying with limbs spread out

Reading Helpers

(Not quizzed — helpful for this text.)

superannuated — too old to work; retired for old age

piebald — with black and white patches

knacker's — buyer of worn-out animals for slaughter

inebriates — habitual drunkards

bon mot — witty remark

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary Preview

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

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 “The banknotes were forgeries! Frederick had got the timber for nothing!”

As used in the passage, the word ‘forgeries’ most nearly means...

- A. bills too old to be spent
- B. notes stolen from a bank
- C. fakes made to look genuine

2 “The enemy was in occupation of this very ground that we stand upon.”

According to the passage, the enemy had...

- A. held control of the farm’s own ground
- B. ruined the ground beyond repair
- C. taken up farm work as a trade

3 “As his last act upon earth, Comrade Napoleon had pronounced a solemn decree: the drinking of alcohol was to be punished by death.”

As used in the passage, the word ‘decree’ most nearly means...

- A. a final warning
- B. an official order
- C. a solemn promise

4 “At the foot of the end wall of the big barn, where the Seven Commandments were written, there lay a ladder broken in two pieces. Squealer, temporarily stunned, was sprawling beside it, and near at hand there lay a lantern, a paint-brush, and an overturned pot of white paint.”

The passage most strongly suggests that the sprawling Squealer had been...

- A. altering the Commandments when he fell
- B. attacked while guarding the wall
- C. surprised a prowler painting the wall

5 “... it had been found necessary to make a readjustment of rations (Squealer always spoke of it as a ‘readjustment,’ never as a ‘reduction’) ...”

The author most likely includes the remark in parentheses in order to...

- A. show Squealer making the cut sound less severe
- B. prove rations were actually higher than before
- C. praise Squealer’s straightforward language

6 “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.”

The ironic use of the word ‘Spontaneous’ in the demonstration’s name suggests that...

- A. the events honored Napoleon personally
- B. the celebrations marked real triumphs
- C. the events were staged, not genuine

7 “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.”

In the passage, Boxer, bracing himself against the boulder’s weight, is characterized as...

- A. driven by sheer determination
- B. confident in his lasting strength
- C. resentful of his exhausting work

8 “There, round the long table, sat half a dozen farmers and half a dozen of the more eminent pigs, Napoleon himself occupying the seat of honor at the head of the table.”

From the mention of ‘the more eminent pigs,’ it can reasonably be inferred that...

- A. every pig was welcome at the table
- B. some pigs now ranked above the others
- C. the farmers outranked all the pigs

9 “Napoleon was so gratified that he left his place and came round the table to clink his mug against Mr. Pilkington’s before emptying it.”

It can reasonably be inferred that the ‘gratified’ Napoleon...

- A. meant to mock Mr. Pilkington’s gesture
- B. welcomed Mr. Pilkington’s goodwill
- C. wished to end the gathering quickly

10 “... the name ‘Animal Farm’ had been abolished. Henceforward the farm was to be known as ‘The Manor Farm’ – which, he believed, was its correct and original name.”

As used in the passage, the word ‘abolished’ most nearly means...

- A. temporarily set aside
- B. carelessly forgotten
- C. officially done away with

ANSWER KEY

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#	KEY	NOTE
1	C	
2	A	Tests the military sense — enemy forces holding ground — not the 'line of work' sense; the farm-work choice catches that misreading.
3	B	
4	A	The text never says outright what Squealer was doing — the ladder, paint, and brush beneath the Commandments wall are meant to add up for the reader; only Benjamin seems to grasp it.
5	A	
6	C	The name itself is the joke — a 'Spontaneous Demonstration' that is commanded and held on a schedule; Orwell's jab at staged 'popular' enthusiasm.
7	A	
8	B	
9	B	
10	C	

Teacher Context: Chapters 8–10

Napoleon's regime grows steadily more corrupt and human-like through trade with humans, the Battle of the Windmill, and Boxer's betrayal, until the pigs become indistinguishable from the men they replaced. Section runs to the end of the novel.