

Animal Farm Key Quotations

Chapter One	Chapter Two	Chapter Three	Chapter Four	Chapter Five
‘Mr Jones, of the Manor Farm, had locked the hen-houses for the night, but was too drunk to remember to shut the popholes.’ ‘Boxer...was universally respected for his steadiness of character and tremendous powers of work.’ ‘Now, comrades, what is the nature of this life of ours? Let us face it, our lives are miserable, laborious and short...No animal in England is free. The life of an animal is misery and slavery: that is the plain truth.’ ‘Man is the only real enemy we have. Remove Man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished for ever.’ ‘Man is the only creature that consumes without producing.’ ‘Man serves the interests of no creature except himself. And among us animals let there be perfect unity, perfect comradeship in the struggle. All men are enemies. All animals are comrades.’ ‘All animals are equal.’ ‘It was a dream of the earth as it will be when Man has vanished.’	‘Three nights later old Major died peacefully in his sleep. His body was buried at the foot of the orchard.’ ‘The work of teaching and organizing the others fell naturally upon the pigs, who were generally recognized as being the cleverest of the animals.’ ‘Napoleon was a large, rather fiercelooking Berkshire boar, the only Berkshire on the farm, not much of a talker but with a reputation for getting his own way. Snowball was a more vivacious pig than Napoleon, quicker in speech and more inventive, but was not considered to have the same depth of character.’ ‘The others said of Squealer that he could turn black into white.’ ‘In past years Mr Jones, although a hard master, had been a capable farmer, but of late he had fallen on evil days. He had become much disheartened after losing money in a lawsuit, and had taken to drinking more than was good for him.’ ‘A unanimous resolution was passed on the spot that the farmhouse should be preserved as a museum. All were agreed that no animal must ever live there.’ ‘They explained that by their studies of the past three months the pigs had succeeded in reducing the principles of Animalism to seven commandments.’ ‘So the animals trooped down to the hayfield to begin the harvest, and when they came back in the evening it was noticed that the milk had disappeared.’	‘The pigs did not actually work, but directed and supervised the others. With their superior knowledge it was natural that they should assume the leadership.’ ‘Boxer was the admiration of everybody. He had been a hard worker even in Jones’ time, but now he seemed more like three horses than one; there were days when the entire work of the farm seemed to rest upon his mighty shoulders.’ “Donkeys live a long time. None of you has ever seen a dead donkey’, and the others had to be content with this cryptic answer.’ ‘The other animals understood how to vote, but could never think of any resolutions of their own. Snowball and Napoleon were by far the most active in the debates.’ ‘Clover learnt the whole alphabet, but could not put words together. Boxer could not get beyond the letter D.’ ‘Squealer was sent to make the necessary explanations to the others. ‘Comrades!’ he cried. ‘You do not imagine, I hope, that we pigs are doing this in a spirit of selfishness and privilege? Many of us actually dislike milk and apples. I dislike them myself.’ ‘Surely, ‘comrades’, cried Squealer almost pleadingly, skipping from side to side and whisking his tail, ‘surely there is no one among you who wants to see Jones come back?’”	‘By the late summer the news of what had happened on Animal Farm had spread across half the county.’ ‘This had long been expected, and all preparations had been made. Snowball, who had studied an old book of Julius Caesar’s campaigns which he had found in the farmhouse, was in charge of the defensive operations. He gave his orders quickly, and in a couple of minutes every animal was at his post.’ ‘The pellets scored bloody streaks along Snowball’s back, and a sheep dropped dead. Without halting for an instant Snowball flung his fifteen stone against Jones’s legs.’ “War is war. The only good human being is a dead one.’ ‘I have no wish to take life, not even human life,’ repeated Boxer, and his eyes were full of tears.’ “Animal Hero, First Class’, which was conferred there and then on Snowball and Boxer.’ ‘In the end it was named the Battle of the Cowshed, since that was where the ambush had been sprung.’	‘As winter drew on Mollie became more and more troublesome. She was late for work every morning and excused herself by saying that she had overslept, and she complained of mysterious pains, although her appetite was excellent.’ ‘It had come to be accepted that the pigs, who were manifestly cleverer than the other animals, should decide all questions of farm policy, though their decisions had to be ratified by a majority vote.’ ‘At the Meetings Snowball often won over the majority by his brilliant speeches, but Napoleon was better at canvassing support for himself in between times.’ ‘He walked heavily round the shed, looked closely at every detail of the plans and snuffed at them once or twice, then stood for a little while contemplating them out of the corner of his eye; then suddenly he lifted his leg, urinated over the plans and walked out without uttering a word.’ ‘In glowing sentences he painted a picture of Animal Farm as it might be when sordid labour was lifted from the animals’ backs.’ ‘They dashed straight for Snowball, who only sprang from his place just in time to escape their snapping jaws.’ ‘If Comrade Napoleon says it, it must be right.’ And from then on he adopted the maxim, ‘Napoleon is always right,’ in addition to his private motto of ‘I will work harder.’”

Animal Farm Key Quotations

Chapter Six	Chapter Seven	Chapter Eight	Chapter Nine	Chapter Ten
‘This work was strictly voluntary, but any animal who absented himself from it would have his rations reduced by half.’ ‘Nothing could have been achieved without Boxer, whose strength seemed equal to that of all the rest of the animals put together.’ ‘From now onwards Animal Farm would engage in trade with the neighbouring farms: not, of course, for any commercial purpose but simply in order to obtain certain materials which were urgently necessary.’ ‘Once again the animals were conscious of a vague uneasiness. Never to have any dealings with human beings, never to engage in trade, never to make use of money – had not these been among the earliest resolutions passed at that first triumphant Meeting after Jones was expelled?’ ‘Afterwards Squealer made a round of the farm and set the animals’ minds at rest.’ ‘It says, “No animal shall sleep in a bed with sheets,”’ she announced finally.’ ‘Comrades,’ he said quietly, ‘do you know who is responsible for this? Do you know the enemy who has come in the night and overthrown our windmill? SNOWBALL!’ he suddenly roared in a voice of thunder,’	‘Starvation seemed to stare them in the face. It was vitally necessary to conceal this fact from the outside world.’ ‘Napoleon rarely appeared in public, but spent all his time in the farmhouse, which was guarded at each door by fierce-looking dogs. When he did emerge it was in a ceremonial manner, with an escort of six dogs who closely surrounded him and growled if anyone came too near.’ ‘When the hens heard this they raised a terrible outcry. They had been warned earlier that this sacrifice might be necessary, but had not believed that it would really happen.’ ‘Whenever anything went wrong it became usual to attribute it to Snowball.’ ‘Now when Squealer described the scene so graphically, it seemed to the animals that they did remember it.’ ‘That is the true spirit, comrade!’ cried Squealer, but it was noticed he cast a very ugly look at Boxer with his little twinkling eyes.’ ‘Napoleon stood sternly surveying his audience; then he uttered a highpitched whimper. Immediately the dogs bounded forward, seized four of the pigs by the ear and dragged them, squealing with pain and terror, to Napoleon’s feet.’ ‘The air was heavy with the smell of blood, which had been unknown there since the expulsion of Jones.’	‘A few days later, when the terror caused by the executions had died down, some of the animals remembered – or thought they remembered – that the Sixth Commandment decreed: ‘No animal shall kill any other animal.’ ‘All orders were now issued through Squealer or one of the other pigs. Napoleon himself was not seen in public as often as once in a fortnight.’ ‘Napoleon approved of this poem and caused it to be inscribed on the wall of the big barn, at the opposite end from the Seven Commandments. It was surmounted by a portrait of Napoleon, in profile, executed by Squealer in white paint.’ ‘Napoleon called the animals together immediately and in a terrible voice pronounced the death sentence upon Frederick.’ ‘The very next morning the attack came.’ ‘The windmill had ceased to exist!’ ‘They had won, but they were weary and bleeding.’ ‘It was a few days later than this that the pigs came upon a case of whisky in the cellars of the farmhouse.’ ‘But a few days later Muriel, reading over the Seven Commandments to herself, noticed that there was yet another of them which the animals had remembered wrong.’	‘Boxer refused to take even a day off work, and made it a point of honour not to let it be seen that he was in pain.’ ‘They knew that life nowadays was harsh and bare, that they were often hungry and often cold,’ ‘About this time, too, it was laid down as a rule that when a pig and any other animal met on the path, the other animal must stand aside: and also that all pigs, of whatever degree, were to have the privilege of wearing green ribbons on their tails on Sundays.’ ‘In April Animal Farm was proclaimed a Republic, and it became necessary to elect a President. There was only one candidate, Napoleon, who was elected unanimously.’ ‘Moses the raven suddenly reappeared on the farm, after an absence of several years. He was quite unchanged, still did no work, and talked in the same strain as ever about Sugarcandy Mountain.’ ‘After his hoof had healed up Boxer worked harder than ever. Indeed all the animals worked like slaves that year.’ ‘Boxer!’ cried Clover in a terrible voice. ‘Boxer! Get out! Get out quickly! They are taking you to your death!’ And the word went round that from somewhere or other the pigs had acquired the money to buy themselves another case of whisky.’	‘Years passed. The seasons came and went, the short animal lives fled by. A time came when there was no one who remembered the old days before the Rebellion, except Clover, Benjamin, Moses the raven, and a number of the pigs.’ ‘Muriel was dead, Bluebell, Jessie and Pincher were dead. Jones too was dead – he had died in an inebrates’ home in another part of the county. Snowball was forgotten. Boxer was forgotten, except by the few who had known him.’ ‘Somehow it seemed as though the farm had grown richer without making the animals themselves any richer – except, of course, for the pigs and the dogs.’ ‘Out came Napoleon himself, majestically upright, casting haughty glances from side to side, and with his dogs gambolling round him. He carried a whip in his trotter. There was a deadly silence.’ ‘ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL BUT SOME ANIMALS ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS.’ ‘The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again: but already it was impossible to say which was which.’