Chapter 1

1. Who owns Manor Farm? What problem does he have?
2. Who is Old Major?
3. Why does Old Major assemble the animals?
4. Describe life on the farm for the animals. How is this type of labor similar to farm workers who work on someone else’s land (sharecroppers)?
5. To what does Old Major point to show that there are opportunities for the animals to run the farm on their own?
6. List the ideals outlined by Old Major that should prevail after the rebellion.
7. Reread the words of the “Beasts of England” song. Which things do the animals want to vanish? Which things do they see as an important of the utopia to come?
8. What broke up the meeting?
9. To what political figure in Russian history does Jones correspond?

Chapter 2

1. The pigs take over like the Bolsheviks did. Why does this seem natural?
2. Who are the three main pigs? Who or what does each represent?
3. The pigs formulate the teachings of Old Major into a system of thought. What is it called? To what form of government does this correspond?
4. What problems are encountered as the animals begin to discuss the coming rebellion?
5. What problems does the raven, Moses, cause?
6. Why is the rebellion so easily accomplished?
7. What two leaders emerge after the rebellion?
8. What is done with the farmhouse?
9. What have the pigs been doing for the last three months?
10. How well did the commandments ascribe to Old Major’s dream?
11. What is the motivation of the new government?
12. What evidence is there of foreshadowing?
13. Why do you think Orwell chose a farm as the setting of this novel?

Chapter 3

1. How well did the animals work together?
2. Is the society of Animals a classless one?
3. What is significant about the quarrels between Napoleon and Snowball?
4. Is there anything significant about Napoleon’s taking away the puppies?
5. What episode causes Squealer to use trickery?
6. Who among the workers is most admired? Why is he valuable to the pigs?
7. Why did Benjamin say, “Donkeys live a long time. None of you has ever seen a dead donkey?”
8. How much did the reading and writing lessons accomplish?
9. What will happen to the apples? Why is this important?
10. What does the sheep chanting “Four legs good! Two legs bad!” symbolize?
11. Why is it important for absolute rulers to “educate” the young?

Chapter 4

1. What is the historical parallel to “Manor Farm” being changed to “Animal Farm?”
2. How did Napoleon and Snowball spread the news of the rebellion to the animals on neighboring farms?
3. Did Pilkington and Frederick offer to help Jones at first? How did they react to their own animals singing “Beasts of England?”
4. Where was Mollie during the battle?
5. From where did Snowball learn battle techniques?
6. Why did Snowball give the sound for retreat?
7. How does Snowball show his ruthlessness?
8. What human rituals did the animals use to celebrate their victory?

Writing Response:

1. When the animals on the neighboring farms sang “Beasts of England” it frightened and angered their owners. Describe a song or type of music you know that has this same kind of effect on others.

Chapter 5

1. If Mollie was a person, what would she be like? How does she betray the ideals of Animal Farm?
2. Describe the power struggle between Napoleon and Snowball. To what does this relate historically?
3. What idea did Snowball have to improve conditions on the farm?
4. The animals divided into two factions. What slogans were devised?
5. How did the animals react when they listened to Napoleon and Snowball?
6. At the meeting about the windmill, what happens? To what historical event does this correlate?
7. Which one of the seven commandments is no longer in effect?
8. What is significant about the dogs wagging their tails at Napoleon?
9. What changes are made after Snowball is outsted?
10. How did Squealer convince the animals that Napoleon was actually helping them?
11. What phrase always stopped any arguments from the animals?
12. What two phrases does Boxer use frequently?
13. What two things cause the animals to go along with Squealer’s explanation of the windmill?
14. Who do the fierce dogs symbolize?

Chapter 6

1. What is ironic about the animals working on Sundays?
2. Why were the animals willing to work so hard?
3. What special difficulties did working on the windmill present?
4. Without whom would the windmill have been impossible?
5. Why is the phrase “even the pigs joined in at critical moments” important?
6. What was the explanation for trading with other farms?
7. What was some of the animals’ reaction to the trading with humans? How did the pigs’ explain this?
8. What did Napoleon tell the hens about giving up their eggs?
9. How is Snowball used as a scapegoat?

Chapter 7

1. What was one of the strongest motivations for rebuilding the windmill?
2. How were the humans tricked into thinking conditions on Animal Farm were better than they really were?
3. Why did it finally become necessary for the hens to surrender their eggs?
4. How did the hens react?
5. What “deal” is Napoleon contemplating? What does this represent?
6. What “additional information” is revealed about Snowball?
7. Even Boxer does not believe that Snowball was always a traitor. What happens afterward that leads us to believe that his saying so was a dangerous move?
8. What do the confessions and executions of the pigs, hens, ducks, etc. represent?
9. What is Squealer’s explanation for forbidding the singing of “Beasts of England?”
10. How is the general idea of the new song completely different from “Beasts of England?”