English 11 Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Animal Farm* Study Guide Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hr. \_\_\_\_\_\_

Chap. I-II, pp. 3-26

**Part One: Comprehension**

1. Who is Old Major?

2. What is the setting at the opening of the novel?

3. Who is the narrator? From whose point of view is the story told?

4. When Old Major addresses the animals, what emotions is Orwell trying to arouse in the reader?

5. Old Major warns the animals that they must always be hostile to Man and his ways. Specifically, what are man’s evil ways?

6. Early in the story how considerate are the animals to each other? Provide examples from the text.

7. Old Major dies, but his dream has awakened all the animals. Whose job is it to lead and organize the animals? Why them?

8. After Jones runs off, what image of the animals does the reader get?

**Part Two: Big Ideas & Looking at Language**

1. The animals act as animals do (ex. cows chew their cud). Because they think and speak, they also seem to represent types of humans. What types of people do these animals represent? Think of the qualities these types of animals typically have.

* Boxer
* Mollie
* The cat
* The sheep
* The dogs

2. As they sing the song “Beasts of England,” what is the mood in the barn?

3. What rhetorical strategies does Old Major employ in his speech to the rest of the animals? Provide examples from the text to support your response.

4. Through his use of Old Major, Orwell is making fun of revolutionary rhetoric. However, which truth in the speech seems sincere? How can a parody mock something while still being serious? Explain.

5. The revolutionary rhetoric has stirred and united the animals. What is the first sign of potential disunity?

6. What is Animalism? What do you think Animalism might represent? Explain, using the information you learned from the background webquest.

7. What would we compare Animalism to in present society?

8. On what did the animals base the Seven Commandments? Explain.

9. Describe how the Rebellion takes place. How does the animals’ behavior during the

Rebellion suggest both human and animal characteristics? Provide examples.

10. If there is a classless society which strives to treat everyone the same, why do the pigs take the lead?

11. Within the ranks of the pigs, which three are predominant? Why?

12. What is suggested about Sugarcandy Mountain?

13. What does the name of the raven suggest?

14. Napoleon leads the animals back to the storage shed and serves everyone a double ration of corn.

How did he become the one to pass out the food? Why do you suppose he gives the dogs two additional biscuits?

15. How do the pigs gain the rights to the cow’s milk? Why do the other animals allow this to occur? What does this event suggest about the power hierarchy on the farm?

16. How does the original vision of Animalism become the slogan “Four legs bad, two legs

good”? Do the animals want rules with simple language? What kind of language do the pigs use? Provide examples to support your response.

17. The reader is told at the end of Chapter 2 that when the animals came back, “the milk had

disappeared.” What do you think this implies?

18. Identify and explain 6 examples of rhetoric in Old Major’s speech.