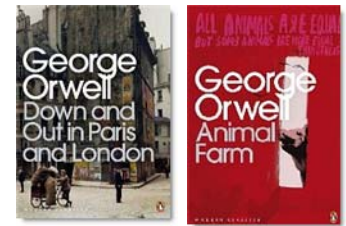


Orwell's social values: How can they be seen in *Animal Farm*?

What links could be made between Orwell's experiences and *Animal Farm*?

The extracts below are taken from *Down and Out in Paris and London*. Orwell wrote this book before *Animal Farm*. It is an account of a time in his life when he was homeless and working in very low-paid and gruelling jobs.



Read the passages below, thinking about the links to *Animal Farm* suggested after each section. Then, complete the grid on the next page, linking specific quotations to *Animal Farm* and your own response.

p.120

'... to perpetuate useless work is ... simply fear of the mob. The mob (the thought runs) are such low animals that they would be dangerous if they had leisure; it is safer to keep them too busy to think. A rich man ... if he is questioned about the improvement of working conditions, usually says something like this: '... We are sorry for you lower classes ... but we will fight like devils against any improvement of your condition. We feel that you are much safer as you are.'



Link to *Animal Farm* hint: Think about how this passage could link to the changing experience of the animals. It is particularly relevant when we consider how Boxer's character and behaviour is presented.

p.121

'Fear of the mob is a superstitious fear. It is based on the idea that there is some mysterious, fundamental difference between rich and poor ... in reality there is no such difference ... the average millionaire is only the average dishwasher dressed in a new suit.'



Link to *Animal Farm* hint: Think about the factors that give the pigs greater power. Think also about the pigs' behaviour when they are in power; they ensure that they are physically and metaphorically separated from the other animals.

p.167

'If you've got any education, it don't matter to you if you're on the road for the rest of your life ... you can live the same life, rich or poor. You can still keep on with your books and your ideas. You just got to say to yourself, "I'm a free man in HERE" - he tapped his forehead.'



Link to *Animal Farm* hint: Education plays an important part in the power relationship between the animals. It could be said that education brings some of the animals power and lack of it prevents them from gaining any freedom.

Orwell's social values: How can they be seen in *Animal Farm*?

Look closely at the quotations from the extracts on page 1. Try to make a specific link to an idea, event or character in *Animal Farm*, referring to a chapter or page number. Then think about your own response to these points: do you agree with Orwell?

Extract quotation	Link to <i>Animal Farm</i>	What do you think about this idea?
'The mob (the thought runs) are such low animals that they would be dangerous if they had leisure; it is safer to keep them too busy to think.'		
'... We are sorry for you lower classes ... but we will fight like devils against any improvement of your condition. We feel that you are much safer as you are.'		
'... in reality there is no such difference ... the average millionaire is only the average dishwasher dressed in a new suit'.		
'If you've got any education, it don't matter to you if you're on the road for the rest of your life ...'		