

In Communist Russia, many commoners were deprived of education by the government so they did not have the means to rebel so they went along with and believed in everything the government told them. This is shown in animal farm with Clover and Boxer, who can only learn the first four letters of the alphabet, and the sheep who are too stupid to learn anything but the mantra "Four legs good, two legs bad".

ORWELL'S PURPOSE

Orwell's use of the theme of education is to show how education can affect leadership as well as how education can be used to manipulate and deceive.

4 KEY QUOTES IN THE BOOK

1. *"The pigs did not actually work, but directed and supervised the others. With their superior knowledge it was natural that they should assume leadership".*
This shows how even in chapter 3 the pigs are beginning to establish themselves as the best and a hierarchy is forming. We can see this through their "superior knowledge" which makes the reader feel that the pigs are superior to the other animals. They are clearly using the rest of the animals' stupidity and lack of education to their advantage.
2. *"We pigs are brainworkers"* - this shows Squealer's convincing language and how he could easily persuade the other animals to come round to his way of thinking - even if it blatantly isn't true. This links to the Russian Revolution and Squealer is used to represent propaganda.
3. *"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"* - This highlights Orwell's purpose - to warn the lower classes about how easy it is for one man/group to take over. It is also from the perspective of the farm animals and therefore shows us how they have been brainwashed.
4. *"Four legs good, two legs bad!"* - this was one of the ways that Snowball tried to educate the sheep. It shows the control the pigs held and how - supposedly - those in power wanted the best for the other animals.

ULTIMATELY, EDUCATION CAUSED THE LANDSLIDE IN ANIMALISM AND THE UPRISE IN THE PIGS, AS THE ANIMALS WERE TOO STUPID TO REALISE THE CHANGING OF THE COMMANDMENTS.