

9. How does Orwell present the feelings and attitudes of the other animals towards the pigs in Animal Farm?

Orwell presents a lack of feelings towards the pigs in Animal Farm, as the animals behave passively and fail to question authority. Boxer is the prime example of this. Boxer uses the maxim: "Comrade Napoleon is always right" repeatedly to reinforce Boxer's opinion and highlight his close-mindedness. The bluntness of this statement reflects an almost military style in Boxer's thinking, however it could also suggest his naivety, as no one is "always right". Additionally, Boxer (along with Squealer) acts as propaganda for the other animals, as Boxer is held up as what everyone should aspire to. The repetition of this blind acceptance influences the other animals to comply with the Pigs' regime, however it is this very trait that leads Boxer to an early grave at the "Knacker's". This shows how a positive attitude to the animals' worsening conditions and the pigs' reign has negative consequences for Boxer.

Orwell uses Boxer's character - and how he appears to have been indoctrinated - to suggest the moral of the story and the consequences of an abuse of power. As well as this, Orwell's allegory draws direct parallels with the peasants of the Russian Revolution, who were exploited due to their lack of knowledge and inability to think for themselves. The same danger is seen in the novel, as the animals refuse to question what the pigs are doing, leading to total corruption on the farm. Orwell's use of the passive voice reflects this.

The feelings and attitudes of the animals are generally described collectively, as if the animals are unable to think for themselves. This portrays them as dim and unintelligent, which we can see as many of the animals cannot learn beyond the first letter of the alphabet. However, the use of an omniscient narrator allows the reader to see how the animals do actually question authority. Clover is described as not remembering one of the (amendments to) Seven Commandments, however she does not trust her own memory, and therefore fails to protect her "comrades" from abuse at the hands of the pigs. This presents some of the animals as slightly distrusting the pigs, however many of the animals are completely blind to this, for example the sheep.

Orwell uses the repeated slogan: "four legs good, two legs bad!" to reinforce the stupidity of the sheep but also to highlight how they have been manipulated. The "distillation" of the seven principles into one short phrase essentially renders Animalism useless, as it has lost all of its meaning. The sheep appear to have no particular feeling towards the pigs and just do what they're told, almost like soldiers receiving their orders. The sheep, much like the hens, are never given individual names, which also gives a sense of how they are only seen as a group. This lack of individuality also prevents the sheep from having their say in "the meetings".

Orwell also uses the passive voice to present the feelings and attitudes of the other animals towards the pigs. "It was noticed that the milk and apples had disappeared" suggests that there was little resistance towards this move, which could be cited as one of the first abuses of power for the pigs. This passivity is exploited as the "nine dogs" Napoleon had been raising are used to force the animals to comply, much like Stalin's secret police (the KGB). This violence puts a deep fear into the animals and