

## "Animal Farm," Vocabulary from Ch's 7-8 ✓

35 words

December 20, 2012 By [Vocabulary.com](http://Vocabulary.com) ✓

As you read George Orwell's 1945 allegorical novella, learn these word lists: [Ch's 1-2](#), [Ch's 3-4](#), [Ch's 5-6](#), [Ch's 7-8](#), and [Ch's 9-10](#).

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### 1. **ration**

a fixed portion that is allotted (especially in times of scarcity)

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*The corn **ration** was drastically reduced, and it was announced that an extra potato **ration** would be issued to make up for it.*

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### 2. **edible** ✓

suitable for use as food

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*The potatoes had become soft and discoloured, and only a few were **edible**.*

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### 3. **decree** ✓

issue a decree

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*He ordered the hens' rations to be stopped, and **decreed** that any animal giving so much as a grain of corn to a hen should be punished by death.*

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### 4. **pile** ✓

a collection of objects laid on top of each other

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*It happened that there was in the yard a **pile** of timber which had been stacked there ten years earlier when a beech spinney was cleared.*

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### 5. **creep** ✓

to go stealthily or furtively

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Every night, it was said, he came **creeping** in under cover of darkness and performed all kinds of mischief.*

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### 6. **snout** ✓

a long projecting or anterior elongation of an animal's head; especially the nose

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

He would put his **snout** to the ground, give several deep sniffs, and exclaim in a terrible voice, "Snowball!"

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## 7. plot



plan secretly, usually something illegal

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Snowball has sold himself to Frederick of Pinchfield Farm, who is even now **plotting** to attack us and take our farm away from us!

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## 8. document



writing that provides information (especially information of an official nature)

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

It has all been proved by **documents** which he left behind him and which we have only just discovered.

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## 9. stupefied



as if struck dumb with astonishment and surprise

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

The animals were **stupefied**. This was a wickedness far outdoing Snowball's destruction of the windmill.

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## 10. countenance



the appearance conveyed by a person's face

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Napoleon appeared to change **countenance**, and sharply ordered Boxer to let the dog go, whereat Boxer lifted his hoof, and the dog slunk away, bruised and howling.

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## 11. confession



an admission of misdeeds or faults

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

When they had finished their **confession**, the dogs promptly tore their throats out, and in a terrible voice Napoleon demanded whether any other animal had anything to confess.

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## 12. slaughter



kill (animals) usually for food consumption

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

The three hens who had been the ringleaders in the attempted rebellion over the eggs now came forward and stated that Snowball had appeared to them in a dream and incited them to disobey Napoleon's orders. They too, were **slaughtered**.

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13. **knoll**



a small natural hill

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*They had made their way on to the little **knoll** where the half-finished windmill stood, and with one accord they all lay down as though huddling together for warmth—Clover, Muriel, Benjamin, the cows, the sheep, and a whole flock of geese and hens—everyone, indeed, except the cat, who had suddenly disappeared just before Napoleon ordered the animals to assemble.*

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14. **huddle**



crowd or draw together

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*They had made their way on to the little knoll where the half-finished windmill stood, and with one accord they all lay down as though **huddling** together for warmth—Clover, Muriel, Benjamin, the cows, the sheep, and a whole flock of geese and hens—everyone, indeed, except the cat, who had suddenly disappeared just before Napoleon ordered the animals to assemble.*

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15. **whinny**



the characteristic sounds made by a horse

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*He fidgeted to and fro, swishing his long black tail against his sides and occasionally uttering a little **whinny** of surprise.*

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16. **achievement**



the action of accomplishing something

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*It had become usual to give Napoleon the credit for every successful **achievement** and every stroke of good fortune.*

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17. **leadership**



the activity of leading

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*You would often hear one hen remark to another, "Under the guidance of our Leader, Comrade Napoleon, I have laid five eggs in six days"; or two cows, enjoying a drink at the pool, would exclaim, "Thanks to the **leadership** of Comrade Napoleon, how excellent this water tastes!"*

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18. **timber**



the wood of trees cut and prepared for use as building material

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*The pile of **timber** was still unsold.*

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19. **poison**



administer poison to

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Four dogs guarded his bed at night, one at each corner, and a young pig named Pinkeye was given the task of tasting all his food before he ate it, lest it should be **poisoned**.

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20. **treacherous** ✓

tending to betray; especially having a treacherous character as attributed to the Carthaginians by the Romans

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

As the summer wore on, and the windmill neared completion, the rumours of an impending **treacherous** attack grew stronger and stronger.

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21. **slogan** ✓

a favorite saying of a sect or political group

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

The pigeons who were still sent out to spread tidings of the Rebellion were forbidden to set foot anywhere on Foxwood, and were also ordered to drop their former **slogan** of "Death to Humanity" in favour of "Death to Frederick."

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22. **machination** ✓

a crafty and involved plot to achieve your (usually sinister) ends

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

In the late summer yet another of Snowball's **machinations** was laid bare.

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23. **inspect** ✓

come to see in an official or professional capacity

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Napoleon himself, attended by his dogs and his cockerel, came down to **inspect** the completed work; he personally congratulated the animals on their achievement, and announced that the mill would be named Napoleon Mill.

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24. **congratulate** ✓

say something to someone that expresses praise

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Napoleon himself, attended by his dogs and his cockerel, came down to inspect the completed work; he personally **congratulated** the animals on their achievement, and announced that the mill would be named Napoleon Mill.

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25. **wagon** ✓

any of various kinds of wheeled vehicles drawn by an animal or a tractor

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Tomorrow Frederick's **wagons** would arrive and begin carting it away.

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## 26. **beatific**



marked by utter benignity; resembling or befitting an angel or saint

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Smiling **beatifically**, and wearing both his decorations, Napoleon reposed on a bed of straw on the platform, with the money at his side, neatly piled on a china dish from the farmhouse kitchen.

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## 27. **halt**



cause to stop

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Meanwhile Frederick and his men had **halted** about the windmill.

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## 28. **limp**



proceed slowly or with difficulty

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Slowly they began to **limp** back towards the farm.

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## 29. **alcohol**



a liquor or brew containing alcohol as the active agent

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

As his last act upon earth, Comrade Napoleon had pronounced a solemn decree: the drinking of **alcohol** was to be punished by death.

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## 30. **celebration**



a joyful occasion for special festivities to mark some happy event

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Two whole days were given over to **celebrations**.

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## 31. **lamentation**



a cry of sorrow and grief

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

A cry of **lamentation** went up. Straw was laid down outside the doors of the farmhouse, and the animals walked on tiptoe.

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## 32. **graze**



feed as in a meadow or pasture

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

A week later Napoleon gave orders that the small paddock beyond the orchard, which it had previously been intended to set aside as a **grazing**-ground for animals who were past work, was to be ploughed up.

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### 33. **recovery**



gradual healing (through rest) after sickness or injury

**EXAMPLE SENTENCE:**

*By the evening, however, Napoleon appeared to be somewhat better, and the following morning Squealer was able to tell them that he was well on the way to **recovery**.*

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### 34. **skulk**



lie in wait, lie in ambush, behave in a sneaky and secretive manner

**EXAMPLE SENTENCE:**

*Snowball was known to be still **skulking** on Pinchfield Farm.*

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### 35. **conciliatory**



intended to placate

**EXAMPLE SENTENCE:**

*In addition, four pigeons were sent to Foxwood with a **conciliatory** message, which it was hoped might re-establish good relations with Pilkington.*

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