

## "Animal Farm," Vocabulary from Ch's 9-10



30 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](#).

---

### 1. poultice

1.

a medical dressing consisting of a soft heated mass of meal or clay that is spread on a cloth and applied to the skin to treat inflamed areas or improve circulation etc.

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Clover treated the hoof with **poultices** of herbs which she prepared by chewing them, and both she and Benjamin urged Boxer to work less hard.*

---

### 2. pension



a regular payment to a person that is intended to allow them to subsist without working

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Liberal old-age **pensions** had been agreed upon.*

---

### 3. superannuated



too old to be useful

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Now that the small field beyond the orchard had been set aside for barley, it was rumoured that a corner of the large pasture was to be fenced off and turned into a grazing-ground for **superannuated** animals.*

---

### 4. readjustment



the act of adjusting again (to changed circumstances)

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*For the time being, certainly, it had been found necessary to make a **readjustment** of rations (Squealer always spoke of it as a "**readjustment**," never as a "reduction"), but in comparison with the days of Jones, the improvement was enormous.*

---

### 5. piebald



having sections or patches colored differently and usually brightly

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*The young pigs were **piebald**, and as Napoleon was the only boar on the farm, it was possible to guess at their parentage.*

---

---

## 6. tureen



large deep serving dish with a cover; for serving soups and stews

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*And the news soon leaked out that every pig was now receiving a ration of a pint of beer daily, with half a gallon for Napoleon himself, which was always served to him in the Crown Derby soup **tureen**.*

---

## 7. spontaneous



said or done without having been planned or written in advance

NOTES:

Note the irony of a planned Spontaneous Demonstration

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Napoleon had commanded that once a week there should be held something called a **Spontaneous** Demonstration, the object of which was to celebrate the struggles and triumphs of Animal Farm.*

---

## 8. caption



brief description accompanying an illustration

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Boxer and Clover always carried between them a green banner marked with the hoof and the horn and the **caption**, "Long live Comrade Napoleon!"*

---

## 9. complicity



guilt as an accomplice in a crime or offense

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*On the same day it was given out that fresh documents had been discovered which revealed further details about Snowball's **complicity** with Jones.*

---

## 10. accumulate



get or gather together

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*He did not care what happened so long as a good store of stone was **accumulated** before he went on pension.*

---

## 11. medicine



(medicine) something that treats or prevents or alleviates the symptoms of disease

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*The pigs had sent out a large bottle of pink **medicine** which they had found in the **medicine** chest in the bathroom, and Clover administered it to Boxer twice a day after meals.*

---

## 12. banquet



a ceremonial dinner party for many people

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

And in a few days' time the pigs intended to hold a memorial **banquet** in Boxer's honour.

---

13. **uproarious** ✓

marked by or causing boisterous merriment or convulsive laughter

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

That night there was the sound of **uproarious** singing, which was followed by what sounded like a violent quarrel and ended at about eleven o'clock with a tremendous crash of glass.

---

14. **beak** ✓

horny projecting mouth of a bird

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

"Up there, comrades," he would say solemnly, pointing to the sky with his large **beak**—"up there, just on the other side of that dark cloud that you can see—there it lies, Sugarcandy Mountain, that happy country where we poor animals shall rest for ever from our labours!"

---

15. **desperation** ✓

a state in which all hope is lost or absent

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

In **desperation** the animals began appealing to the two horses which drew the van to stop.

---

16. **inebriate** ✓

a chronic drinker

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Jones too was dead—he had died in an **inebriates'** home in another part of the country.

---

17. **morose** ✓

showing a brooding ill humor

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Only old Benjamin was much the same as ever, except for being a little greyer about the muzzle, and, since Boxer's death, more **morose** and *taciturn* than ever.

---

18. **taciturn** ✓

habitually reserved and uncommunicative

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Only old Benjamin was much the same as ever, except for being a little greyer about the muzzle, and, since Boxer's death, more morose and **taciturn** than ever.

---

19. **install** ✓

set up for use

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

The animals were hard at work building yet another windmill; when that one was finished, so it was said, the dynamos would be **installed**.

---

20. **insoluble** ✓

admitting of no solution or explanation

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

There was nothing with which they could compare their present lives: they had nothing to go upon except Squealer's lists of figures, which invariably demonstrated that everything was getting better and better. The animals found the problem **insoluble**; in any case, they had little time for speculating on such things now.

---

21. **sapling** ✓

young tree

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

One day in early summer Squealer ordered the sheep to follow him, and led them out to a piece of waste ground at the other end of the farm, which had become overgrown with birch **saplings**.

---

22. **terrify** ✓

fill with terror; frighten greatly

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

It was just after the sheep had returned, on a pleasant evening when the animals had finished work and were making their way back to the farm buildings, that the **terrified** neighing of a horse sounded from the yard.

---

23. **stroll** ✓

walk leisurely and with no apparent aim

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

A little awkwardly, as though not quite used to supporting his considerable bulk in that position, but with perfect balance, he was **strolling** across the yard.

---

24. **subsist** ✓

support oneself

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

He would end his remarks, he said, by emphasising once again the friendly feelings that **subsisted**, and ought to **subsist**, between Animal Farm and its neighbours.

---

25. **witticism** ✓

a message whose ingenuity or verbal skill or incongruity has the power to evoke laughter

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

Here it became apparent that Mr. Pilkington was about to spring some carefully prepared **witticism** on the company, but for a moment he was too overcome by amusement to be able to utter it.

---

## 26. **subversive**



**in opposition to a civil authority or government**

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*For a long time there had been rumours—circulated, he had reason to think, by some malignant enemy—that there was something **subversive** and even revolutionary in the outlook of himself and his colleagues.*

---

## 27. **suppressed**



**manifesting or subjected to suppression**

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Hitherto the animals on the farm had had a rather foolish custom of addressing one another as "Comrade." This was to be **suppressed**.*

---

## 28. **dregs**



**sediment that has settled at the bottom of a liquid**

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*There was the same hearty cheering as before, and the mugs were emptied to the **dregs**.*

---

## 29. **unalterable**



**not capable of being changed or altered**

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*Only old Benjamin professed to remember every detail of his long life and to know that things never had been, nor ever could be much better or much worse—hunger, hardship, and disappointment being, so he said, the **unalterable** law of life.*

---

## 30. **incumbent**



**necessary (for someone) as a duty or responsibility; morally binding**

EXAMPLE SENTENCE:

*But before doing so, there were a few words that he felt it **incumbent** upon him to say.*

---