

**Eighth Grade World History  
Summer Reading Assignment**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

This summer you will be reading *Animal Farm*, an absolutely phenomenal work of genius written by George Orwell. *Animal Farm* is an allegory (a story with a hidden meaning) about the Russian Revolution, communism, and the rise of Joseph Stalin (dictator of Russia from 1922-1953).

In reading *Animal Farm*, you will grow to understand and love/hate its characters of Napoleon, Snowball, Boxer, Squealer, Mr. Jones and many more. What I want you to understand while reading the book is this: What is communism? What is dictatorship? What is the enemy?

Write AT least a full page (must go over onto the second page) that deals with **one** of the questions below. Make sure that you include **TWO** examples from the book.

1. Discuss the idea of “the enemy” in *Animal Farm*. Who is the first enemy of the animals? Who is the second? Why is it so important to have an enemy to become powerful? Do you always need an enemy in order to attain greatness?
2. What is this Sugarcandy Mountain that the Raven keeps talking about? Why is it important? What does it relate to in human society?
3. Is totalitarian (complete, total control over the people like Napoleon uses) rule more effective or more efficient than democratic rule (rule by the people)?
4. What are the principles behind Animalism? Look up the definition of communism. How are they similar? How are they different?
5. Why are the animals pushed to revolution on the farm? What forces a society (animal or otherwise) to rise up against their rulers? Why don't the Animals rise up against Napoleon?

Each essay must:

1. Proper Heading: Write this on the top left corner.  
*Your Name*  
Ms. Sparrow  
History 8  
Date
2. be AT LEAST one page, double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt font.
3. One passage that illustrates your point
4. Passage must be cited. “I’m not a muggle!” (8). (Page number in parentheses, no “page”)
5. Spell checked and checked for grammar and syntax.
6. This assignment is due on the first day of class. If you cannot attend the first day of your scheduled history class, email your assignment to me in advance. [ssparrow@charleswright.org](mailto:ssparrow@charleswright.org)
7. Define and understand the concept asked about in *Animal Farm* (first part of the question).
8. Explore and demonstrate understanding of the concept asked about in the second part of the question.