

Mladi za napredek Maribora 2020
37. srečanje

The Historical Background Of Animal Farm

Raziskovalno področje: Tuji jeziki

Raziskovalna naloga

Avtor: ZALA HREN, LUCIJA ISKRA

Mentor: ANDREJA MIKLUŠ
Šola: II. GIMNAZIJA MARIBOR
Število točk: 127/ 170

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POVZETEK

V tej raziskovalni nalogi smo želeli ugotoviti, kako je v romanu Živalska farma opisana zgodovina Sovjetske zveze in na kakšen način jo je avtor predstavil.

Pred začetkom dela smo zastavili pričakovanja - da osebe v romanu predstavljajo nekatere resnične osebe ter da je knjiga kritika komunističnega sistema. Najprej smo delo prebrali, nato pa raziskovali, kakšna je zgodovina Sovjetske zveze, katere so bile pomembne osebnosti in kakšen je bil njen politični sistem. Tako smo poskušali ugotoviti, kolikšen del v romanu odraža dejansko zgodovino in kolikšen je izmišljen. Preučili smo tudi biografiji Josipa Stalina in Leva Trotskega, za primerjavo z glavnima osebama, Napoleonom in Snowballom. Prav tako smo raziskali avtorjevo življenje in ugotavljali, vpliv njegove življenjske zgodbe na nastanek.

Ob koncu smo potrdili svoja pričakovanja, in sicer da je avtor uporabil junake v romanu kot simbole resničnih osebnosti ter da je zgodbo uporabil kot kritiko tedanjega sistema vladanja, komunizma.

ZAHVALA

Zahvaljujemo se mentorici za pomoč in nasvete pri izdelavi raziskovalne naloge ter profesorju za lektoriranje povzetka.

ABSTRACT

In this research paper we wanted to find out, how does the book describe the history of the Soviet Union and how did the author present it.

Before the start, we set out our expectations, namely, that the characters represent real historical figures and that the book is the criticism of communism. Firstly, we read the book carefully and then researched the real history of the Soviet Union, its most important leaders and their political system. By that, we tried to find the differences between the real history, which reflects in the story and the elements that are a product of the author's imagination. We also studied biographies of Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky to compare characteristics of two main characters in the book, Napoleon and Snowball, who are an allegory for Stalin and Trotsky with their real characteristics. Furthermore, we studied author's biography and analysed how his personal life influenced the origin of the book.

We were also researching other characters in the book and tried to recognise in what social class do they belong. In addition, we paid attention to rhetoric and its role, trustfulness and gullibility of lower social classes and the change of leader's behaviour throughout the story.

In the end, we were able to say our expectations were correct, as the author did use certain characters to represent actual historical figures - specifically Napoleon as Joseph Stalin and Snowball as Leon Trotsky - and used the story as a criticism of a political system in place at the time, the communism.

INTRODUCTION

George Orwell's most famous allegorical novel *Animal farm* portrays the reality of Soviet Union headed by the dictator Joseph Stalin, using a simple fairy tale story of animals on the English farm. Because of the censorship of the press at the time, Orwell could not criticise the communism directly, instead he showed the horrors and weaknesses of the system by symbolically using animals as human beings. When animals oppose their human farmer and become their own leaders of the farm, everybody believes this is the beginning of equality, happiness and freedom. At first, it seems like they succeeded, but the conditions soon become the same as before, if not even worse - the farm falls under the dictatorship of a pig named Napoleon. The book continually shows the gullibility of lower social class, represented by mice, chickens, cats and many other animals. Until the very end, these animals believe Napoleon knows everything and would only do the best for them, not realising he became manipulative dictator, who mostly cares about his own needs and wishes and would do anything to keep his leadership (this is shown by blaming Snowball for every bad thing on the farm). While reading the book, we both agreed that manipulateness is one of Napoleon's characteristics that stands out the most and has the biggest impact in his speeches.

SUMMARY OF THE BOOK

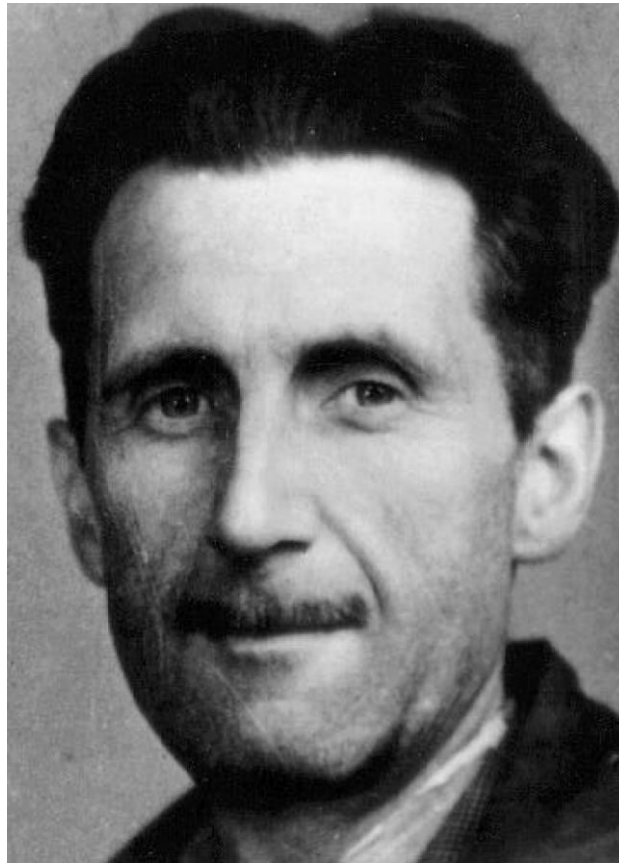
The story takes place on the Manor farm, where animals are under the command of Mr. Jones. He is often drunk and always neglects his animals, they are given too little food while he feasts and drinks. Because of his attitude the animals stage a rebellion, they are led by Old Major. A boar who dreams of a world in which the animals would live all together being their own masters. He addresses the animals of the farm on the meeting held in the big barn. He encourages them towards this world and teaches them a song called Beasts of England, which becomes their anthem later. Three days later Old Major dies and his spot is taken by three pigs: Napoleon, Snowball and Squealer. They formed an ideology called animalism based on Major's ideas. In a battle they manage to defeat Mr. Jones and chase him off the farm. They write seven commandments, that appear sacred and everything should be according to them. In the beginning everything seems perfect and better than ever, Snowball was teaching the animals how to read, and Napoleon teaches them about animalism. But Mr Jones wants his land back and attacks the animals but loses. After some time, the differences between Napoleon and Snowball grow too big and their different views become a problem. They are unable to agree no matter what about. Snowball comes up with a plan of a windmill that would also be able to make electricity and Napoleon opposes him because it is not his idea. Snowball is a great speaker and often manages to persuade the animals of his ideas, but Napoleon fights dirty and in one of Snowball's speeches scary dogs attack him and he runs away from the Animal farm. Now Snowball is gone, and the power of decision-making is in Napoleon's hands. Suddenly he thinks the windmill should be build and that becomes the purpose of their lives, especially Boxer's, whose motto becomes: "I will work harder." But in one of the storms the windmill collapses and the animals are devastated, they then decide to build another, stronger mill. Napoleon announces that Snowball was actually working against them and for Mr. Jones this whole time and that he is their number one enemy. And that he has returned to the farm to destroy the windmill and now anyone who works with him must die. Some animals come forward and die a gruesome death. This sets the future of Animal farm. Everyone fears Napoleon, he is rewriting history so that Snowball appears worse and worse in the eyes of the animals, he changes his behaviour – sleeps in bed, drinks whiskey and communicates with the neighbouring farmers. He is behaving more and more like a human, like Mr. Jones. The animals notice some things and start to question them, but Squealer always manages to persuade them otherwise. Clover starts to think some changes do not go with the commandments, however, each one she checks is different than in her memory. She is the first one who notices something is fishy. Now the animals are as poorly treated as in the time of Mr. Jones. Later on, the Animal farm is attacked by a neighbouring farmer and the windmill is destroyed, the animals decide to build it again. But one day while working on the mill Boxer falls and is severely injured, he is supposedly taken to a hospital but in reality, Napoleon sells him to the butcher so he can buy more whiskey. As years pass the pigs are more and more human, they walk on two legs, wear clothes and drink whiskey. The seven commandments are erased, and

the only thing written as a principle of Animalism is: "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others." This makes the animals notice the changes and as Napoleon is having a meeting with Mr. Pilkington even the animals watching pigs and humans cannot separate one from another.

AUTHOR'S INFLUENCE

Author of the book, George Orwell was against the expectation also a socialist, but has been the opponent of communism and The Soviet Union his whole life. He was known for his novels, essays and critics, but has experienced his greatest glory with *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949). His strong opinions on imperialism, fascism, communism and social injustice in general were crucial for lots of political movements at the time. Orwell's birth name was Eric Arthur Blair, who was born on June 25, 1903 in Motihari, India. He was a child of British colonists and spent his first years there, that way he was already familiar with the reality of British imperialism in India in his early life. After moving back to England, Orwell was sent to a boarding school in Eastbourne, where he for the first time experienced the difference in treatment of the rich children from the poor ones. He later on continued his education at Eton College, which was, in his words, also full of snobbishness and social elitism. After college, he joined the India Imperial Police Force in 1922 and spent the next 5 years of his life in Burma. He then decided to move back to England and try working as a writer. He was struggling at first, taking all kind of jobs in order to make ends meet. *Animal Farm*, published in 1945, shows similar themes as his previous work, but in simpler format, using a "fairy story" to cover the political background. Orwell used two main characters, Napoleon and Snowball as two leaders of the Soviet Union - Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky and all the animals together on the English farm were used to tell the real history of the Soviet Union and its communism. Orwell's inspiration to write *Animal Farm* came from his own time, spent with Trotskyist group in Spanish Civil War, where he joined the British Independent Labour Party and became a defender of democratic socialism. In the book, Snowball is represented more nicely and kindly, which shows that Orwell was fonder of Trotsky than Stalin. Although, author's main idea while writing was to represent the problems and dark sides of communism and the Soviet Union, he wrote the novella in a way that can be interpreted in different ways. By doing so, he moved the book closer to readers of all age - from little children to educated adults. His other well-known novel was *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, published in 1949. It exposed the dark side of Stalin's communism by illustrating a terrifying picture of a world in which personal freedom is non-existent. Orwell, as a socialist, was not a supporter of the Soviet Union and its politics, nor did he visualize the Soviet Union as a positive representation of the possibilities of socialist society. He was not able to deny the cruelty of Soviet Communist Party. He believed the Soviet Union transformed the unfair feudal system into the dictatorial reign of Joseph Stalin. Instead, he outspoken about the democratic socialism, which in his opinion was the best political system to give people the justice they deserve. His two greatest novels *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* form the basis of his reputation. Later on, he was mostly remembered as an advocate of freedom and a committed opponent of communist oppression. Author married his wife, Eileen O'Shaughnessy in 1936, who supported him and his career. Couple adopted a son together in 1944, named Richard Horatio Blair. Unfortunately, Eileen died in 1945, so he was largely raised by Orwell's sister Avril. A year

before his death he fell in love with Sonia Brownell, an editor, to whom he also proposed. Couple got married in October 1949, only a few months before his death. Brownell received Orwell's heritage and made a career out of managing his legacy. Orwell was also diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1938 and had been suffering with it until January 1950, when it killed him. He was just 46 years old at the time of his death, but had already made his ideas and opinions, told through his work, to live longer than him.



Picture 1: George Orwell

REAL HISTORY

The story is a satire of Stalin's totalitarianism. According to the author, the story presents the Russian history towards the revolution. The Russian revolution took place in 1917, it set the process which ended with the Soviet Union. In 1917 two revolutions occurred in Russia, the events and circumstances have been leading up to it for decades. In the second half of the 19th century, the Russian people were mostly peasants with a minority of poor industrial workers, for the industrialization prospered in Stalin's time. Until 1861, the Russian empire functioned on the serfdom system, a form of feudalism. Since most of the west abolished feudalism in the middle ages the Russian empire was seen as an undeveloped and held back society. When the serfs were emancipated the people had more freedom, therefore had more time to organise and begin a revolution. The origin of industrialism first appeared at the beginning of the 20th century and a lot of people moved into big cities and the inhabitancy nearly doubled. This resulted in overcrowding and poor living conditions for the new class of industrial workers. The rise of population and wars Russia was partaking in are the reasons behind poverty and deficiency of food. These rough circumstances lead people to the streets to fight against the ruler. One such protest led to the Bloody Sunday massacre of 1905 when hundreds of unarmed citizens were killed or wounded by troops of Tsar Nicholas II. The massacre led to the revolution of 1905, the workers organised numerous strikes all around the country. In 1914 Russia, in support of Serbia and British and French allies, entered the first world war. Their involvement had horrible consequences, they were militarily demolished by the industrialised German army, there were numerous casualties and the economy suffered. On the 8th March 1917, the February revolution started (Russia was still using the Julian calendar at the time, so the revolution started in February for them, therefore the February revolution). People have taken the streets to express their dissatisfaction, the police tried to stop them, but they refused to leave and stayed on the streets. Three days later troops were sent to stop them, some engaged in contact, some wounded the demonstrators, but the protesters stood strong. They formed a provisional government and the Czar abdicated the throne. The government put forward a liberal program, which included freedom of speech, equality before the law, and the right to organise and strike for unions. However, they still engaged in the war therefore the economy did not improve, and people were still unsatisfied with the situation. The October or Bolshevik revolution occurred on November 6th and 7th, 1917. Vladimir Lenin led a group of left-sided revolutionists to a nearly bloodless overthrow of the government, as the government was composed of capitalists and higher class, therefore it did not work for the wellbeing of the people. Instead, he created a soviet government, which constituted of soldiers, peasants and workers. They occupied all the important institutions and soon Lenin became the dictator of the first communist country in the world. The revolution ended in Russian Civil War fought by a red and white army. Monarchists, capitalists and supporters of democratic socialism connected in loose forces also known as the white army. In the end, Lenin and his army won the war and in 1922 created the Soviet Union. The USSR included 15

countries at its peak. When Lenin died in 1924, he was succeeded by Joseph Stalin. He ruled until 1953 when he died. During his ruling, he transformed Russia into a military and industrial superpower. He ruled with a tough hand and his people were terrified of him, many died because of his policies. During the times of the Soviet Union, five-year plans were implemented with an intention of economic growth, the intention of the very first one was rapid industrialization and collectivizing agriculture as these two were the main goal of Stalin's socialism, the ones after encouraged production of armaments and improvement of military. The land was turned into national property, it was collectivized, taken away from its previous owners the peasants. Many of the big farmers, with a lot of land and big incomes, also known as kulaks, were stripped of their land and executed. The peasants of the Soviet Union were forced to work on one of the forms of collective farms. The leaders believed that this kind of organization would lead to better productivity, however, they were proved wrong. The collectivisation resulted in enormous food shortages bringing hunger and starvation to the people. The Great Famine was denied for a very long time. In the Ukrainian famine – Holodomor an estimated 3,9 millions people died, meaning about 13% of the entire population. While Stalin ruled, he enforced a political campaign known as the Great purge or the Great Terror. His intentions were to eliminate those who did not agree with him or were willing to talk against him, meaning mostly members of the Communist party but as well anyone he considered a threat. The first event was the assassination of Sergei Kirov, a prominent Bolshevik leader. He was murdered at the headquarters of the Communist party by Leonid Nikolayev. It is speculated that Stalin himself ordered the hit. After the assassination, there were three massive trials known as the Moscow trials, where many of Stalin's opponents were accused of treason. They confessed, but as we now know only after interrogations, threats, and torture. At the time the secret police with three-member committees decided on the fate of other a little less known anti-Soviets, the executions were ruled on as justified. With terms such as “fifth column”, he described those there anyhow punished during the Great Purge. He had 30,000 members of the Red Army executed as well as 81 out of 103 military officials for he was convinced they were plotting a coup. He signed a decree which made the entire family accountable for actions of one, and all were executed. The purge took place between 1936 and 1938 and ended an estimated 750,000 lives, furthermore over a million others were sent to labour camps, where they were forced to work under horrifying conditions for up to 14 hours a day. The camps are called Gulags and have taken many lives due to starvation, disease or even execution. Gulags firstly appeared in 1919 and compassed 84 camps until 1921, however, Stalin made significant extensions and the number of people in them quickly rose. He saw them as an opportunity to boost industrialization by forcing the people to work in the timber or coal mines as the country has many natural resources. Those kulaks who were not executed were sent there, for they revolted after the collectivization, they were the first group of prisoners. After the launch of Stalin's purge many laborers, he referred to as “political prisoners”, were brought to Gulags.

Firstly, this included members of the Communist Party and military and government officials, afterwards came educated people, such as intellectuals, students, artists and scientists, and ordinary people. Prisoners were forced to work with simple, crude tools and no safety equipment, some who served in the mines had to dig dirt using nothing but their hands. It was so bad that some workers axed away their hands or burned them on purpose to avoid further working. They were not given a lot of food and if they did not complete their quotas the quantity of their food was reduced. The living conditions were tough, there was a lot of violence – between guards and prisoners or just prisoners themselves, women were often assaulted or raped by guards or prisoners. Many did not make it out alive; historians estimate that at least 10% of the Gulags population died each year. The reasons behind Stalin's purge are still unknown. Many argue whether he just wanted to maintain power as a dictator or saw this as a way to unify, enhance and preserve the Soviet Communist party, for the rise of Nazism and militarism in Japan presented a threat to the Soviet Union. The purge officially ended in 1938, however, Stalin's goal was not completed until the assassination of his biggest rival Leon Trotsky in August of 1940. Trotsky firstly embraced Marxism as a teenager and helped to organise the underground South Russian Workers' Union. He was arrested in 1898 for his revolutionary activities and sent to prison, two years later he was exiled to Siberia. He managed to escape to England using the name Leon Trotsky for the first time. There so collaborated with Lenin, however, he later sided with Mensheviks, who advocated a more democratic approach. Trotsky returned to Russia as the Russian Revolution of 1905 began, but he was exiled to Siberia yet again, and yet again he escaped. After that, he was expelled from many countries due to his radicalism. As the next Russian Revolution in 1917 arose he returned to Russia and played a significant part in the Bolsheviks' seizure of power, before Lenin triumphantly returned in November. As Lenin's secretary of foreign affairs, he was responsible for the negotiation of the end of Russian involvement in the World War I with the Germans. He was seen as the heir of Lenin in the early 1920s after Lenin fell ill in 1922, he lost in the struggle of succession. And Stalin became the leader. During Stalin's leadership, Trotsky criticised the new regime, as it was suppressing democracy and failing to create adequate economic planning. Because of that Stalin launched propaganda against him and removed him from his post in the war commissariat as well as expelling him from Politburo and the Communist Party. In 1929 Stalin expelled him from the Soviet Union outright. He settled in Turkey on the island of Prinkipo. He wrote his autobiography and a book about the history of Russian revolution. After Turkey, he lived in France, Norway and lastly Mexico. There he was granted asylum and with his family he moved to Mexico City. He was accused of treason during Stalin's purges, they found him guilty, therefore a machine-gun attack on his house was ordered, however, he survived. But on the 20th of August Spanish Communist Ramon Mercader wounded him with an ice-axe. The wounds turned out to be fatal. But even after Trotsky's death, Stalin was not finished, and he continued his actions until his death in 1953. At the end of the World War II, the relations between the Soviet Union and the United States

and Great Britain have cooled. The Soviet Union managed to enforce governments prone to communism in countries they liberated from the Nazis, countries of eastern Europe. The United States, Canada and its European allies have united together in NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organization, for they feared spreading of communism. They stood against the Soviet Union and its allies, so they formed a rival alliance known as the Warsaw Pact. This started the Cold War. The Cold War between east and west continued until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. The Cold War began a little after Stalin's death in 1953, he was succeeded by Nikita Khrushchev. Khrushchev was a big factor in the war between the east and the west, he was the one who instigated the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 as he installed nuclear weapons just 90 miles from the coast of Florida in Cuba. But in Russia, he worked on making the Soviet society less repressive with a series of political reforms. The period of Khrushchev's ruling is also known as the time of de-Stalinization. He publicly criticised Stalin's way of leading the country, especially the arrests and deports of his opponents. Therefore, Khrushchev freed many political prisoners, loosened censorship, tried to raise living conditions and even closed the Gulags. He was removed by members of his own party in 1964, because of the exacerbated relations between China and the Soviet Union, as well as food shortages across the country. In 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev rose to power. Soviet's economy was stagnant, and the political system was falling to pieces. As he tried to make the Soviet Union more prosperous and productive, he introduced two sets of policies: glasnost and perestroika. Glasnost abolished censorship and encouraged political openness. It also ended the secret police, popular Stalin's tool for catching traitors. The policy also allowed public criticism of the government and gave the opportunity to other parties to participate in the elections. The main idea of this policy was to remove any traces of Stalinist repression. Perestroika, on the other hand, was meant to tackle the economic issues, as it was Gorbachev's plan for restructuring the economy. He wanted to turn the Soviet Union in a communist-capitalist system, such as China is today. The Politburo – policy-making committee – would control the direction of the economy, however, market forces would be the ones to dictate decisions around production and development. The time of Gorbachev is also known as the time when the Soviet Union started to crumble. As his policies were meant to do well, they did not succeed. People were still starving, lines for bread were still common and people were still missing basic goods. With deionising of control over people, he gave them an opportunity to embolden independence movements. It became quite common in the Soviet satellites of Eastern Europe. A revolution in Poland led to others and soon the Berlin Wall fell. The Soviet Union was falling apart. In 1991 the Communist Party diminished Gorbachev's power and put forward the democratic branch. Boris Yeltsin was the first leader of the Russian country, as Gorbachev resigned, and the Soviet Union's history ended on the 31st of December 1991.



Picture 2: Joseph Stalin

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The book is known as an allegory for the Russian Revolution. An allegory means a story which is an extended metaphor, everything in the book resembles something else from a similar and real-life situation. Therefore, while the book may have an adorable tale with an obvious simple surface meaning and also contains a different meaning often linked to a real historical or political event. In the case of *Animal Farm*, it includes both, for it presents the Russian Revolution as well as the political regime called animalism. The book starts with the events that led to the Russian Revolution and ends with Napoleon's totalitarianism, which presents the Stalinist state Russia finds itself in. The book connects the historical and social context, it includes events of the past as well as the impact of these events on the people, individuals and society. Russia is famous for the long use of communism, the first person to think of the idea of communism was Karl Marx. He and Engels believed that the poverty they were facing, the extremely poor conditions, diseases and deaths the proletariat had to face would lead to a rebellion. All of those - poverty, diseases, poor conditions, deaths - were features of capitalism and that they could be resolved only by turning into communism. In the abstract communism means nationalization, all the land would be publicly owned and used to benefit all. Marx believed that capitalistic regimes would lead to never-ending and constantly worsening crises, such as recessions. Capitalism would increase the level of unemployment, decrease wages and bring the proletariat to its breaking point. This will convince the working people to stand up and seize the major means of production along with institutions. In the book, Marx is presented as the Old Major, the pig that persuades other animals to attack Mr. Jones and take over the farm. He is the one that comes up with the idea of equality, of animalism. Even though, Old Major dies and the ones known as the beginners of animalism are Snowball and Napoleon, they use his ideas to define it. Animalism in the book is the equivalent of real-life communism. So, as Marx, in reality, believes that all people should be equal and not oppressed or used for working forces, Old Major in the book believes exactly the same. This is why we can see a connection between Marx and Old Major. As Marxist ideas spread to Russia, animalistic ideas spread between animals leading them to a rebellion. The rebellion represents the Russian Revolution. Because of this connection, Old Major can also be translated to Vladimir Lenin. Therefore, Old Major is a combination of the two most powerful and successful proponents of communism. Just as Old Major led the animals into the mindset of a rebellion, Vladimir Lenin leads the Russians into the rebellion that ended as the Russian Revolution. Like the Russians, in reality, realised there was major inequality, huge oppression, appalling treatment of peasants and workers, the animals in the book find themselves oppressed, unequal to humans and treated horribly. The same causes lead the animals and the Russians to start a rebellion. The Russians try to take down Tsar Nicholas II and the animals try to take down Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones presents Tsar Nicholas II, they are both tough leaders who treat their underling in poor living conditions, prone to diseases and death, and care about nothing other than their own profit. The Battle of the Cowshed presents the

Russian Civil War. The Russian Civil War was fought between white and red army and the Battle of Cowshed was fought between humans and animals. Animals present Lenin's Bolsheviks or the red army who have won the war. Bolsheviks can also be translated as only the pigs, for they were the closest supporters of Napoleon and Snowball, who lead the rebellion. As Great Britain and Germany feared the spread of communism, Mr. Pilkington and Frederick were worried about the potential spread of animalism. Therefore, Mr. Frederick presents Germany's Adolf Hitler and Mr. Pilkington presents Neville Chamberlain – the Prime Minister of Great Britain - and somehow the United States as well. Napoleon is a well-known image of Joseph Stalin. Just as Stalin used propaganda to gain supporters and control the people, Napoleon always manages to persuade the animals into his right. However, the one with better rhetorical skills is Snowball. Snowball is Napoleon's rival and presents Leon Trotsky, Stalin's big dissident. They have different ideas and always stand against each other, even if one has a good idea there is no way that the other would agree. The windmill is the exact example of this. It was Snowball's idea and although it was a good idea Napoleon did not agree with it, for he was, in his own beliefs, allowed to agree with his big nemesis. In the end, Napoleon got rid of Snowball by exiling him of the Animal Farm. He made sure he did it in a terrifying way so that all animals would fear him. Just like Napoleon exiled Snowball, Stalin expelled Trotsky from the Soviet Union. And one of his primary goals was to eliminate Trotsky all-together, this is something Napoleon failed to do, but he did manage to convince all the animals that Snowball was a traitor working with Mr. Jones from the beginning. Stalin promised to lead Russia out of difficult times and into an industrial era. This resulted in treating the peasants even worse than they were treated with before, and the same in Animal Farm the quality of animal life worsened after the built of the windmill – industrialization. Stalin tried to boost industrialization with 5-year plans, that planned the production and organization of the economy. To gain favour of the people he used propaganda, he used propaganda to set up the so-called cult of personality. With that, he became the supreme figurehead. Similarly, Napoleon used propaganda to convince the animals of his right and that led to a slogan: "Napoleon is always right!". The propaganda was in both cases meant to persuade people that his beliefs, what he stood for and what he said was the only correct decision or a way to go. Anybody who disagreed or had anything against him to say was considered the enemy of the state. People did not want to cross Stalin, as he was known to be ruthless. Napoleon turned out the same way, for he ruthlessly killed the hens who stood up against him and always marched with his dogs for everyone to fear. But Napoleon needs second hand who was much better in convincing speeches than him. That was Squealer, a replica of Vyacheslav Molotov. Molotov was the major spokesman for the Soviet Union at Allied conferences around the time of World War II. During Stalin's ruling, he was the prime minister, Stalin's second-in-command. And just like him, Squealer was Napoleon's right-hand man, well, pig. "Napoleon is always right!", and "I will work harder!", are Boxer's citations, he presents the brain-washed workers. He is the one who always pushed

and worked more and more until his body had enough and could not take any more. After his death, Napoleon and Squealer tell the animals that he will be taken to a veterinarian. But as it turns out they sell him to the butchers and leave him to a gruesome death. And, yet again, Squealer manages to convince others that Napoleon did nothing wrong and that the veterinarian just bought the butcher's trunk. The animals blindly believed him and carried on with their lives. He took things even further when he told the animals that Boxer died a peaceful death surrounded by Napoleon and himself, and that in the end, he was proud that he worked harder and believed that Napoleon was always right. With that, the animals, who respected Boxer, felt it was their duty to work as hard as him. Squealer managed to manipulate the animals into anything he desired, he, alongside Napoleon, was the definition of a charismatic leader. George Orwell places Animal Farm in Great Britain and not Russia, which could be a consequence of Marx's belief that communism would first rise in Great Britain, as it was the most industrialised country at the time. He also subtitles the book "A Fairy Story", which could indicate that the story is also a fairy tale. In fairy tales, the characters are often two-dimensional stereotypes, that are meant to reveal a broad observation about life. In fairy tales there are no morals, as a critic C.M. Wodehouse wrote in his piece about Animal Farm, he also that in fairy tales you are provided with life as it is, and you can take it or leave it. As in a fairy tale, Animal Farm exposes evil in totalitarianism and totalitarian exploitation of the people. But even with fairy elements, the book is still mainly an allegory. In the end, we can conclude that altogether the book is a satirical tale against Stalin and his totalitarian leadership.

HISTORY VS. THE BOOK

| IN THE HISTORY | IN THE BOOK |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Joseph Stalin | Napoleon |
| Leon Trotsky | Snowball |
| Vyacheslav Molotov | Squealer |
| Lenin + Marx | Old Major |
| Tsar Nicholas II | Mr. Jones |
| Russian Civil War | The Battle of the Cowshed |
| Bolsheviks | pigs |
| Adolf Hitler | Mr. Fredericks |
| Neville Chamberlain¹ | Mr. Pilkington |
| Russian workers | Boxer |
| Soviet industrialization | The windmill |

Table 1: History VS. the book

¹ Prime minister of Great Britain

COMPARISON OF ANIMALS AND REAL-LIFE FIGURES

As mentioned above, Orwell wrote the book portraying animals as real-life personalities in Russian Revolution of 1917, which is known for the deterioration of already existing poor conditions in the country and resulted in even more oppressive and totalitarian political system than in the time of Tsar Nicholas II. Mr Jones was created on Tsar Nicholas II, the last Russian emperor, who was known by his persistence that he was the incontestable ruler of his nation. During his reign, the country was full of terrible poverty and upheaval, marked by the Bloody Sunday slaughter in 1905, when harmless rebels demanding social reforms were shot down by the army. There is a similar scene described in the book. The lives of millions of Russians worsened during Nicholas' reign, as did lives on animals at the beginning of the book. Russia, later on, joined World War I and consequently lost more men than other countries, leading outraged and desperate people began a series of strikes and then flagged the end of Tsarist control. When his generals withdrew their support of him, Nicholas resigned his throne. He was removed from his place of command and died shortly thereafter. Napoleon's dog represents Stalin's real existing KGB, a secret police he used for elimination of opponents. Old Major represent Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov, better known by his alias Lenin. As the leader of the Bolshevik Party he seized control in the 1917 Revolution. Inspired by Karl Marx's theory of Communism (urges "workers of the world" to unite against their economic oppressors), he tried to establish the system of communism, where people would be living life being economically equal. Old Major also outlined the principles of Animalism, a theory where all animals are equal and must rebel against their oppressors. Lenin was uncompromising in his views, one of the things he did being the order to kill Nicholas and his family after the Bolsheviks had increased control and transforming Russia into the U.S.S.R. (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)- old Major too introduced the farm to the new system. One of his reforms was also the Five-Year Plan for revitalizing the nation's industry and agriculture, which is also a reflect on windmill plans. Lastly, the flag, designed by old Major, was include a horn and hoof, the weapons of the rebels, while the U.S.S.R.'s flag pictured a hammer and sickle, the tools of their rebels. Lenin died before the results of his political system could be noticeable, as well as did old Major. Leon Trotsky, one of Lenin's partners and Marxist thinker too, participated in many revolutionary protests and rebellions. In the book, his characteristics are shown in the pig Snowball, who, just like Trotsky, encouraged animals (his people in Trotsky's case) to realise that rebellions are the right way to become seen and achieve your aims. Trotsky was searching for the best ways to modify Marx's theories into practice, which can be reflected in Snowball's plans for the windmill. Furthermore, Trotsky was the leader of Lenin's Red Army, while Snowball led animals during their rebellion. Later on, he was exiled from U.S.S.R and killed on Stalin orders, as Snowball was exiled from the farm and became the common enemy. Mr Jones is the first human who appears in the novel, being the original owner of the farm, later on being forced out of the farm due to the animal revolt. He represents Tsar Nicholas II, the last emperor of Russia and was forced to abdicate in 1917,

after the Russian revolution. In his time of ruling his country, life for the citizen of Russia was difficult and cruel. This is related to Mr Jones treatment of the animals. He took care of them poorly, making them work to their limits and only provided enough food for animals to stay alive. All this led to a spontaneous rebellion, started because Mr Jones forgot to feed them, and they were at the point where they could not starve themselves anymore. Similar was the theme of rebellion in the Russian revolution- conditions for the people were poor, there was also many hunger and poverty. They both underestimated the power of Russia citizen and animals on the farm, holding onto the power of their army, not recognising the expansion of anger and the powerfulness, which came with the anger. They both took advantage from the other while not giving them what they deserve, causing others' hatred towards them to grow, and eventually end up as a revolution. Mr. Frederick, owner of Pinchfiel, the neighbouring farm is a symbol for Adolf Hitler. In the plot, Napoleon has to sell a pile of timber, costing a look of attention and rumours from other animals. Napoleon then clarifies that he was playing both potential buyers, Pilkington and Frederick. When he finally sells it to Frederick, he realises he was played too, as the banknotes were forgeries and Frederick had got the timber for nothing. This is a stand-in for Stalin's non-aggression pact with Hitler, signed in 1941 (time of second World War), where it allowed former severe opponents Soviet Russia and Nazi Germany to slice up Eastern Europe into fields of influence (meaning people were now dominated by one totalitarian regime or the other). The alliance got Great Britain feeling nervous, as the British army was fighting Germany all by its lonesome, since France had disintegrated in June 1940 and the U.S. didn't enter the war until December 1941. That way Nazi-Soviet agreement became a big threat to Great Britain. But it did not last long, same as the Frederick and Napoleon's agreement. Hitler broke the pact. In 1941, a massive surprise attack into Soviet territory happened, as Germany launched Operation Barbarossa. Frederick also revealed his true character by forging banknotes. The Battle of the Windmill in the book is a parallel line of this war on the Eastern Front (where the fights in Western Europe were happening). Frederick and his men blow up the windmill, but the animals end up forcing them out, just like in Battle of Stalingrad in 1943, when Stalin's army defeated Hitler's, as Napoleon's loss Frederick. Stalin also took advantage of propaganda, in the book represented by Squealer, real life Vyacheslav Molotov, Stalin's protégé and head of Communist propaganda. His job was to idealise Stalin and his ideas for changes, as it is visible from many speeches in the book, where animals were being manipulated without acknowledging it. He defended Stalin's policies and legacy until his death in 1986, and harshly criticised Stalin's successors. He was also leading figure in the Soviet government from the 1920s and had many other important political rolls, a few of them being a Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars. The book also explicitly shows Squealer's loyalty to Napoleon, as well as the impact his speeches had on other animals. Through the story he uses different techniques of manipulation, from fear ("...if you do not work Jones will come back..."), scapegoating (blaming Snowball for everything) and playing smart (explaining laws and activities). The horse

Boxer is a symbol of the Russian workers. He is a hard worker (visible from his effort for building the Windmill), showing only loyalty and trust to the pigs, his mottos being 'Napoleon is always right' and 'I will work harder'. He is the strongest animal on the farm but does nothing when conditions get worse. Same is the situation regarding Russian workers- they are the biggest and strongest community in Soviet Union but does not have the knowledge needed for changes. As well as workers, Boxer is also uneducated and struggles to express himself and his thoughts. Orwell uses Boxer to show that lower class workers without the benefit of learning, were not able express themselves and so they will never be able to speak out against their leader, or in the case of animals to the pigs. Workers were exploited by the Tsar Nicholas II who ruled from 1894 until his expulsion in 1917. The workers were kept in a position where they never earned enough money to pay for food or accommodation, just like Boxer got just enough food and were expected to do the hardest work.

CHARISMATIC AUTHORITY

By definition this means an authority based on special qualities possessed by an individual, the qualities make them attractive and likeable to the masses. Because of that, they can affect and influence people's choices. Some characteristics that make for a charismatic leader are communication, maturity, confidence, substance, positive body language, ... Sociology classifies it as one of the legitimate forms of leadership, going together with tradition and rationally legal leadership. The concept of charismatic leadership was firstly described by the German sociologist Max Weber. According to him, charisma is based on a social relationship between the leader with charisma and those who believe him and in him. As a sociologist, he focused on the analysis of the structure of such relations. The social structure of such leadership is based on emotional collectivization and often emotional bond with the leader. The leader constitutes a new leadership, a new cognitive definition of the situation and a new structure of social relationships. The biggest example of that is Adolf Hitler. After Germany was defeated in World War I the Germans lost their faith in parliamentarianism, the constitution and parties, they needed someone to bring them together to take complete power and maybe even to find someone to blame for their misfortune. Hitler provided all of those as charismatic leaders refer to ultimate values, survival, honour and justice. However, they do not offer specific measurements. Just as Hitler did not offer the Germans a specific program, he just managed to convince them that something completely new had to be built. His leadership proofs the power of charisma, his legitimacy as the leader originates in his charisma, his ability to convince people that he is right, his performance and the way he managed to manipulate the masses. The core of his power was his charisma. Most of the totalitarian leaders leaned onto their charisma to help them gain and stay in power. Benito Mussolini, Fidel Castro, Hitler and Joseph Stalin as well. In the book, Napoleon is the charismatic leader, but even more than him we can observe the power of great rhetoric through Snowball's speeches. Even the author describes him as a great speaker and all the animals listen to what he has to say, and Napoleon sees no other possibility to defeat him than to dispel him using scary dogs. After this incident, all the animals fear Napoleon therefore, he can stay in power. But he would not be able to keep his power without charisma and plausibility. His second-hand Squealer was the real charisma in this leadership. He was capable of convincing everyone that Napoleon did nothing wrong no matter the situation, he always finds a way to turn the situation to his advantage. Whoever steps forward with a complaint is stepped on in an instant with Squealer's ability of manipulation. Charismatic authority or leadership is a big part of this book, for we are constantly aware of the manipulation taking place. With the help of charisma and successful convincing, the leaders of animal farm are able to make animals do exactly as they desire, for they believe every word they say. In Snowball and Squealer, we can detect the characteristics of charismatic authority, therefore we can say that the author knew the importance and capabilities of it.

SYMBOLS

There are a lot of symbols included in the book, the most obvious ones being the windmill, the barn and the Animal farm itself. The windmill is the symbol of pigs' manipulation of the other animals for their own winnings. Napoleon continue convincing the animals to keep building the windmill, despite the enormous need for food. A horse Boxer, the strongest animal on the farm was manipulated to the point where his motto became "I will work harder", which led to backbreaking labour and in our opinion is the same as slavery. Finished windmill would bring the improvements and wealth only to the pigs, the leaders who have done no physical work at all. Windmill's first collapse was in pigs' words the blame of Snowball, a "common enemy". It refers to psychological manipulation and shows the naivety of animals in lower social class. Napoleon's strategy was to use psychological manipulation to prevent other animals from doubting the pigs' abilities. Furthermore, allegorical point of windmill is gigantic modernization projects undertaken in Soviet Russia after the Russian Revolution. The barn with Seven Commandments, written on the walls represent the common memory of a modern nation. Multiple scenes show the barn as a place for pig's command the working-class their assignments and explain to them the principles of Animalism. Moreover, the oppressors, by revising their nation's conception of its origins and development, gain control of the nation's very identity, leading to dependency of animals to their leaders. The Animal Farm itself specifically symbolizes Russia and the Soviet Union during Communist era, as well as any human society in general. It illustrates the structure of a nation, with a government as the pigs, an army as the dogs and a working-class (the other animals). Its location between several opposed farms also maintains its symbolism as a political entity.

CONCLUSION

At the end of our research paper, we can conclude that Orwell took most of the material for the plot from the Russian revolution, happening at the time, as well as its characters and some events in the book. It is not a myth that the people, ruling their country can change people too, as well as the political system. the Soviet Union is the example, where it's leaders completely changed people's lives and led them to the stage, where they could not take the poor conditions anymore. We also confirmed that the part of the plot came from author's personal life and his beliefs, such as strong opinion on the bad sides of communism and Stalin's ruling. We came to a conclusion, that Orwell was a big admirer of Marx, since he places the story in Great Britain. Marx believed the communism would firstly happen in Great Britain and not in Russia. Orwell managed to transform a horrifying story into a book every children reads. And that is something only great authors are capable of. We are satisfied with what we found out through the writing this research paper.

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