English 9: Meyer

Vocabulary: *Animal Farm*

**Prereading:**

**Propaganda:** The use of words or images to move an agenda forward or to subvert another’s agenda

**Allegory:** a symbolical narrative: *Animal Farm* stands for the Russian Revolution and its players.

**Magical realist fiction is:**
--A disruption of modern realist fiction
--creates a space for interaction and diversity
--no less 'real' than traditional 'realism'
--about transgressing boundaries, multiple worlds
--on the boundaries and destabilizes normative oppositions
--subversive
--an international phenomenon


First it is the combination of reality and fantasy and second, it is the transformation of the real into the awesome and unreal, thirdly an art of surprises, one which creates a distorted concept of time and space, fourth a literature directed to an intellectual minority; characterized by a cold cerebral aloofness it does not cater to popular tastes, but rather to that of those sophisticated individuals instructed in aesthetic subtleties. (Erwin Dale Carter. Magical Realism in Contemporary Argentine Fiction. Ann Arbor: U Microfilms, 1969. p. 3-4)
Communism a theory or system of social organization based on the holding of all property in common, actual ownership being ascribed to the community as a whole or to the state.

Socialism a theory or system of social organization that advocates the vesting of the ownership and control of the means of production and distribution, of capital, land, etc., in the community as a whole.

Fascism a governmental system led by a dictator having complete power, forcibly suppressing opposition and criticism, regimenting all industry, commerce, etc., and emphasizing an aggressive nationalism and often racism.

Democracy government by the people; a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system.

Capitalism an economic system in which investment in and ownership of the means of production, distribution, and exchange of wealth is made and maintained chiefly by private individuals or corporations.

Manifesto a public declaration of intentions, opinions, objectives, or motives.

Roman numeral system: I = 1, II = 2, III = 3, IV = 4, V = 5, X = 10

Chapter 1:

Scullery a small room or section of a pantry or kitchen.

Ensconced to cover or shelter; hide securely or snugly.

“drew trap” to pull a fancy carriage.

Comrades a member of the Communist party or someone with strongly leftist views; friend or partner.
Chapter 2:

Apathy absence or suppression of passion, emotion, or excitement; lack of interest in or concern for things that others find moving or exciting

Spinney a small wood or thicket.

Subvert to overthrow (something established or existing); to cause the downfall or destruction of something

Chapter 3:

Parasite/parasitic an organism that lives on or in an organism of another species, known as the host; a person living off the work of another

Cockerel a young, male rooster

Cryptic mysterious in meaning; puzzling; ambiguous

Indefatigable not yielding to fatigue; untiring

Symbolism the practice of representing things by symbols, where one thing stands for another

Chapter 4

Ignominious marked by or attended with ignominy (dishonor or public contempt); discreditable; humiliating

Impromptu made or done without previous preparation

Solemn serious or earnest

Confer to consult together; compare opinions

Posthumous arising, occurring, or continuing after one's death

Ambush attacking unexpectedly from a concealed position

Artillery mounted projectile-firing guns or missile launchers
Chapter 5

Pretext something that is put forward to conceal a true purpose or object

Blithe joyous, merry, or gay in disposition; glad; cheerful

Breeches knee-length trousers

Gaiters an overshoe with a fabric top

Publican any collector of taxes

Liable legally responsible

Manifest (verb) to prove; put beyond doubt or question

Canvass (verb) 1. to solicit votes, subscriptions, opinions, or the like from.
   2. to examine carefully; investigate by inquiry; discuss; debate

Biding /bide (verb) bide one's time, to wait for a favorable opportunity

Silage any crop harvested while green for fodder and kept succulent by partial fermentation in a silo

Slag waste left over after the re-sorting of coal

Aloof at a distance, especially in feeling or interest; apart:

Restive refusing to go forward; impatient; restless

Chapter 6:

Bankrupt a person unable to satisfy any just claims made upon him or her in debts or character

Arable capable of producing crops; suitable for farming;

Procure to obtain by the use of special means

Commission authority granted for a particular action or function.

Dread to fear greatly
Reconcile to compose or settle (a quarrel, dispute, etc.); to bring into agreement or harmony

Prosper to be successful or fortunate, especially in financial respects; thrive; flourish

**Chapter 7:**

Fore the front

Chaff the husks of grains and grasses that are separated during threshing; garbage

Famine extreme and general scarcity of food, causing starvation of many inhabitants

Cannibalism eating one’s own kind

Infanticide the act of killing a baby

Pullet a young hen

Capitulated to give up; surrender; agree to terms

Categorically without exceptions or conditions; absolute;

Countenance facial expression

**Chapter 8:**

Scoundrel an unprincipled, dishonorable person; villain

Propaganda information, ideas, or rumors deliberately spread widely to help or harm a person, group, movement, institution, nation, etc.

Machination an intrigue, plot, or scheme

Nocturnal done, occurring, or coming at night

Censured an official reprimand; criticism

Pensioner a person who receives or lives on a pension, a fixed amount, other than wages paid in retirement
Conciliatory meant to reconcile (make up)

Wistful characterized by melancholy; longing; yearning

Chapter 9:

Piebald having patches of black and white or of other colors

Superannuated too old for use, work, service, or a position; retired

Complicity the state of being an accomplice; partnership or involvement in wrongdoing

Contempt/contemptuously the state of being despised

Haunches a hindquarter of an animal

Oration a formal public speech

Chapter 10:

Inebriate to make drunk; intoxicate; exhilarate

Rheumy full of water, esp. eyes

Morose gloomily or sullenly ill-humored, as a person or mood.

Taciturn inclined to silence; reserved in speech; reluctant to join in conversation.

Filial noting or having the relation of a child to a parent.

Frugal economical in use or expenditure; prudently saving or sparing;

Insoluble incapable of being dissolved: insoluble salts.

Bon mot a witty remark or comment; clever saying; witticism.

Malignant very dangerous or harmful in influence or effect.

Dregs the least valuable part of anything: the dregs of society.

Or a small remnant; any small quantity; sediment