

English - Animal Farm

Lesson 19: The Executions

# The Executions

## Downloadable Resource

Miss Eden



# What was the Great Purge in the Russian Revolution?(there is more than one correct answer)

## Option 1

When Trotsky organised the Communist Party.

## Option 3

When Stalin got rid of anyone who disagreed with him.

## Option 2

When the Red Army and White Army fought.

## Option 4

When Stalin got rid of anyone who was a threat to his power.



# Which of the following is a correct definition of execution?

## Option 1

When someone is murdered.

## Option 2

When someone is killed for political reasons.

## Option 3

When someone is sent away from where they live.

## Option 4

When someone is killed by accident.



Led by three young Black Minorca pullets, the hens made a determined effort to **thwart** Napoleon's wishes. Their method was to fly up to the rafters and there lay their eggs, which smashed to pieces on the floor. Napoleon acted swiftly and ruthlessly. 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. The dogs saw to it that these orders were carried out. For five days the hens held out, then they **capitulated** and went back to their nesting boxes. Nine hens had died in the meantime. Their bodies were buried in the orchard, and it was given out that they had died of **coccidiosis**.

**Thwart** - stop someone from achieving something

**Decreed** - ordered by law

**Capitulated** - giving in

**Coccidiosis** - a disease birds get



1. How does Napoleon react to the hens' rebellion?
2. Who carries out Napoleon's orders?
3. What reason was given for the death of so many hens?



# How does Orwell show Napoleon as a cruel dictator?

Napoleon stood sternly surveying his audience; then he uttered a high-pitched whimper. Immediately the dogs bounded forward, seized four of the pigs by the ear and dragged them, squealing with pain and terror, to Napoleon's feet.

To the amazement of everybody, three of them flung themselves upon Boxer. Boxer saw them coming and put out his great hoof, caught a dog in mid-air, and pinned him to the ground. Boxer looked at Napoleon to know whether he should crush the dog to death or let it go. Napoleon sharply ordered Boxer to let the dog go.



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.

They were all slain on the spot. And so the tale of confessions and executions went on, until there was a pile of corpses lying before Napoleon's feet and the air was heavy with the smell of blood, which had been unknown there since the expulsion of Jones.



# How did the animals feel after the executions?

When it was all over, the remaining animals, except for the pigs and dogs, crept away in a body. They were shaken and miserable. They did not know which was more shocking--the **treachery** of the animals who had leagued themselves with Snowball, or the cruel **retribution** they had just witnessed. In the old days there had often been scenes of bloodshed equally terrible, but it seemed to all of them that it was far worse now that it was happening among themselves. Since Jones had left the farm, until today, no animal had killed another animal. Not even a rat had been killed.

**Treachery - betrayal of trust**

**Retribution - reward/punishment for something you have done**



# How did the animals feel after the executions?

The animals felt \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ after the executions because...



**Orwell portrays Napoleon as a tyrant**

**True**

**False**



**Napoleon represents Tsar Nicolas II in the allegory of the Russian Revolution.**

**True**

**False**



**Orwell is showing readers how terrifying Stalin's Russia was for people who lived there.**

**True**

**False**

