FREE

MRS. PETERS-BRYANT ELA RESOURCE

Animal Farm

CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

ROOTS · WORD PARTS · SYNTAX

allegory Animalism commandments
dictator propaganda windmill comrades

- Word parts chart
- Break It Apart
- Root match
- Syntax check
- Word family sort
- Matching game
- 9-question quiz
- Answer keys
- Video QR code

Grade 7 (works for 7–10)

CCSS L.7.4b · RL.7.4 · L.7.4a

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ANIMAL FARM · CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY · FREE

Teacher Notes

Grade 7
about 60 minutes

These seven vocabulary words give students the big ideas of *Animal Farm* before the story unfolds. Students learn what an **affix** is (a **prefix** before the root or a **suffix** after it), break each word into its parts, match roots to meanings, and sort new words into root families. Napoleon is a name, so students study the word that describes what he becomes: **dictator**.

WATCH FIRST: CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY VIDEO

Scan the code or go to youtu.be/HJFzOqEw39c

1. Show the video. 2. Students keep the **Word Parts chart**. 3. Worksheet Parts A–E (30 min). 4. **Matching Game** (10 min). 5. **Quiz** (15 min).

PREFIX, SUFFIX OR AFFIX?

Affix
Any word part added to a root. Prefixes and suffixes are both affixes.

Prefix
Comes **before** the root: *com*-mand, *pro*-paganda.

Suffix
Comes **after** the root: anim-*ism*, dict-*ator*. An **inflectional** suffix like -s changes number, not meaning.

STANDARDS ALIGNMENT

STANDARD	WHAT STUDENTS DO	WHERE
L.7.4b	Use common Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to a word's meaning	Word Parts chart, Parts A, B, D
RL.7.4	Determine the meaning of words as they are used in a literary text	Part C, Part E
L.7.4a	Use context as a clue to a word's meaning	Part C
L.7.1	Explain how a word functions in a sentence	Chart, Part C
RL.7.9	Compare a fictional story with the history it draws on	Part E (allegory)

Pairs with: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, Signet Classics 75th Anniversary Edition. Works with any edition: no page numbers are used. Some terms preview later chapters (the commandments, the windmill, Napoleon's rise).

ANIMAL FARM · CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

Word Parts Chart

Keep this page as a reference

The **pink box** is the root. A **prefix** comes before the root and a **suffix** comes after it.

allegory *noun*

alle- **gor** **-y**

alle- = other · gor = to speak in public

Means: a story with a hidden political meaning; its characters and events stand for real history

Syntax: Common noun: *Animal Farm is an allegory of ___.* Adjective form: *allegorical*.

Novel: The farm, the animals and the rebellion stand for real people and events in history.

Family: allegorical, category, agora

Animalism *noun*

anim **-al + -ism**

anim = breath, life, spirit · -ism = belief system

Means: the philosophy of equality the animals adopt

Syntax: Proper noun (capital A) naming a belief system, like other *-ism* words.

Novel: Old Major's dream of freedom in Chapter 1 grows into Animalism.

Family: animal, animate, unanimous

commandments *noun*

com- **mand** **-ment + -s**

com- = fully · mand = to order · -ment = result of

Means: rules that must be obeyed; the Seven Commandments are meant to ensure fair treatment for every animal

Syntax: Plural noun. The -s is an inflectional ending that makes it plural.

Novel: Seven commandments will be painted on the barn wall as the animals' rules.

Family: command, demand, mandatory

dictator *noun*

dict **-ator**

dict = to say · -ator = one who

Means: a ruler with total power whose word is law

Syntax: Names a person; often after *become*. **Key term link:** Napoleon.

Novel: Napoleon, a large, fierce-looking Berkshire boar, begins his rise to power.

Family: dictate, predict, contradict

propaganda *noun*

pro- **pag** **-anda**

pro- = forward · pag = to fix, to plant (spread)

Means: biased information used to promote a political cause

Syntax: Noncount noun: *spread propaganda*, never *a propaganda*.

Novel: Squealer will use propaganda to make the animals trust the pigs.

Family: propagate, propagation

windmill *noun*

wind + mill

compound: two base words, no affixes

Means: a machine that uses wind to grind grain or make power

Syntax: Compound noun: two base words joined into one word.

Novel: The windmill represents the animals' hope for a better life.

Family: windpipe, sawmill, millstone

comrades *noun*

comrade **-s**

from camera = room: people who share a room

Means: friends and equals working toward the same goal

Syntax: Plural noun, also used to speak to a group: *Comrades, listen!*

Novel: The animals call each other comrades, but the word builds a false sense of unity.

Family: camera, chamber, camaraderie

PREFIX · ROOT · SUFFIX

prefix + **root** + **suffix**

Prefixes and suffixes are both **affixes**.

Watch out: *comrades* starts with c-o-m, but *com-* is not a prefix there. It comes from *camera*, "room." That's an **affix imposter**!

Worksheet

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Period** _____

A BREAK IT APART

Use your Word Parts chart. Split each word into its prefix, root and suffix. Write **none** if there isn't one. Then write what the root means.

WORD	PREFIX	ROOT	SUFFIX	ROOT MEANING
allegory				
Animalism				
commandments				
dictator				
propaganda				
windmill				
comrades				

B ROOT MATCH

Write the letter of the meaning next to each root or prefix.

_____ **anim**	_____ **mand**	**a.** to fix, to spread	**b.** life, breath, spirit
_____ **dict**	_____ **pag**	**c.** room	**d.** to order
_____ **alle-**	_____ **camera**	**e.** other	**f.** to say

C SYNTAX CHECK, PART 1

Fill in each blank with a word from the box. Then circle the kind of noun: **common**, **proper** (capital letter) or **plural** (more than one). **Word box:** allegory · Animalism · commandments · dictator · propaganda · windmill · comrades

1. Old Major speaks to every animal as one of his _____. common proper plural

2. *Animal Farm* is an _____ because its animals stand for real people. common proper plural

3. Old Major's dream later grows into a belief system called _____. common proper plural

C SYNTAX CHECK, PART 2

4. The rules painted on the barn wall are called the seven _____. common proper plural

5. A ruler whose word is law, like Napoleon becomes, is a _____. common proper plural

6. Squealer spreads _____ to convince the animals that the pigs are always right. common proper plural

7. The _____ was supposed to make work easier, but it brought endless labor. common proper plural

D WORD FAMILY SORT

Each word below shares a root or prefix with one of your vocabulary words. Write two words under each one. **Word bank:** predict · windy · demand · chamber · animate · proceed · mandatory · unanimous · contradict · propel · windpipe · camaraderie

anim	mand	dict
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

pro-	camera	wind
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

E CONNECT TO THE NOVEL

1. Affix imposter! *Comrades* **starts with c-o-m. Is** *com-* **a prefix here? Explain using the word's real root.**

_____

_____

2. *Allegory* **means "speaking otherwise." Why might Orwell tell a story about animals instead of real people?**

_____

_____

3. Exit ticket: write one sentence about Chapter 1 that uses two of this week's words correctly.

_____

_____

ANIMAL FARM · CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

Matching Game

Cut apart
15 cards

HOW TO PLAY: MEMORY MATCH

Cut out the cards, mix them up and lay them face down. Take turns flipping two cards. If a **word** matches its **meaning**, name one of its affixes or its root out loud to keep the pair. Most pairs wins.

QUICK VERSION

Lay all cards face up and race to match all seven pairs.

WORD · CH. 1

allegory

alle- + gor + -y

WORD · CH. 1

Animalism

anim + -al + -ism

WORD · CH. 1

commandments

com- + mand + -ment + -s

WORD · CH. 1

dictator

dict + -ator

WORD · CH. 1

propaganda

pro- + pag + -anda

WORD · CH. 1

windmill

wind + mill

WORD · CH. 1

comrades

comrade + -s

MEANING · CH. 1

a story with a hidden political meaning

MEANING · CH. 1

the philosophy of equality the animals adopt

MEANING · CH. 1

rules that must be obeyed

MEANING · CH. 1

a ruler with total power whose word is law

MEANING · CH. 1

biased information used to promote a political cause

MEANING · CH. 1

a machine that uses wind to grind grain or make power

MEANING · CH. 1

friends and equals working toward the same goal

RULE CARD · CH. 1

Affix = prefix or suffix.

To keep a pair, name one affix or root in the word out loud!

ANIMAL FARM · CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

Quiz

Score: ___ / 10

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Period** _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. An affix is:

(a) the root of a word
(b) a prefix or suffix added to a root
(c) a word that means the same
(d) a compound word

2. In *propaganda*, the prefix pro- means:

(a) against (b) forward (c) under (d) again

3. Which key term is a compound word with no affixes?

(a) allegory (b) windmill (c) commandments (d) Animalism

4. The suffix -ism in *Animalism* means:

(a) one who (b) a belief system (c) full of (d) the act of

5. Which word shares a root with *dictator*?

(a) predict (b) animal (c) demand (d) comrade

6. In *comrades*, the -s is:

(a) a prefix
(b) the root
(c) an inflectional ending (plural)
(d) a compound

7. Which sentence uses *allegory* correctly?

(a) *Animal Farm* is an allegory, because its animals stand for real people in history.
(b) The pig allegoried across the yard.
(c) The barn was very allegory.
(d) The hens ate an allegory for lunch.

8. Old Major calls the animals *comrades*. What does this word choice show?

(a) He believes all animals are equal partners.
(b) He wants to be their dictator.
(c) He is afraid of them.
(d) He plans to sell them.

9. Short response (2 points): *Animalism* comes from the root anim (life, spirit). Explain why the name fits Old Major's dream. Use the word *Animalism*.

_____

_____

ANIMAL FARM · CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

Answer Key: Worksheet

For teachers

A BREAK IT APART

Use your Word Parts chart. Split each word into its prefix, root and suffix. Write **none** if there isn't one. Then write what the root means.

WORD	PREFIX	ROOT	SUFFIX	ROOT MEANING
allegory	*alle-*	*gor*	*-y*	*gor = to speak (alle- = other)*
Animalism	*none*	*anim*	*-al + -ism*	*life, breath, spirit*
commandments	*com-*	*mand*	*-ment + -s*	*to order*
dictator	*none*	*dict*	*-ator*	*to say*
propaganda	*pro-*	*pag*	*-anda*	*to fix, to spread (pro- = forward)*
windmill	*none*	*wind + mill*	*none*	*two base words*
comrades	*none*	*comrade*	*-s*	*room (from camera)*

B ROOT MATCH

Write the letter of the meaning next to each root or prefix.

b **anim** — *d* **mand** — *f* **dict** — *a* **pag** — *e* **alle-** — *c* **camera**

a. to fix, to spread
b. life, breath, spirit
c. room
d. to order
e. other
f. to say

C SYNTAX CHECK, PART 1

Fill in each blank with a word from the box. Then circle the kind of noun: **common**, **proper** (capital letter) or **plural** (more than one). **Word box:** allegory · Animalism · commandments · dictator · propaganda · windmill · comrades

1. Old Major speaks to every animal as one of his *comrades*. — common · proper · **plural**

2. *Animal Farm* is an *allegory* because its animals stand for real people. — **common** · proper · plural

3. Old Major's dream later grows into a belief system called *Animalism*. — common · **proper** · plural

Answer Key: Worksheet

For teachers

C SYNTAX CHECK, PART 2

4. The rules painted on the barn wall are called the seven *commandments*. — common · proper · **plural**

5. A ruler whose word is law, like Napoleon becomes, is a *dictator*. — **common** · proper · plural

6. Squealer spreads *propaganda* to convince the animals that the pigs are always right. — **common** · proper · plural

7. The *windmill* was supposed to make work easier, but it brought endless labor. — **common** · proper · plural

D WORD FAMILY SORT

Each word below shares a root or prefix with one of your vocabulary words. Write two words under each one. **Word bank:** predict · windy · demand · chamber · animate · proceed · mandatory · unanimous · contradict · propel · windpipe · camaraderie

anim	mand	dict
animate	*demand*	*predict*
unanimous	*mandatory*	*contradict*

pro-	camera	wind
proceed	*chamber*	*windy*
propel	*camaraderie*	*windpipe*

E CONNECT TO THE NOVEL

1. Affix imposter! *Comrades* **starts with c-o-m. Is** *com-* **a prefix here? Explain using the word's real root.**

"Comrade" comes from camera, "room," not the prefix com-. Comrades were people who shared a room, so it means close equals.

2. ***Allegory*** **means "speaking otherwise." Why might Orwell tell a story about animals instead of real people?**

Sample: Allegory means "speaking otherwise." Orwell tells a story about animals so he can talk about real leaders and history in a hidden way.

3. Exit ticket: write one sentence about Chapter 1 that uses two of this week's words correctly.

Sample: Old Major called the animals comrades, but Napoleon will later become a dictator.

ANIMAL FARM · CHAPTER 1 VOCABULARY

Answer Key: Quiz

For teachers

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. An affix is:

- (a) the root of a word
- (b) a prefix or suffix added to a root
- (c) a word that means the same
- (d) a compound word

2. In *propaganda*, the prefix pro- means:

- (a) against
- (b) forward
- (c) under
- (d) again

3. Which key term is a compound word with no affixes?

- (a) allegory
- (b) windmill
- (c) commandments
- (d) Animalism

4. The suffix -ism in *Animalism* means:

- (a) one who
- (b) a belief system
- (c) full of
- (d) the act of

5. Which word shares a root with *dictator*?

- (a) predict
- (b) animal
- (c) demand
- (d) comrade

6. In *comrades*, the -s is:

- (a) a prefix
- (b) the root
- (c) an inflectional ending (plural)
- (d) a compound

7. Which sentence uses *allegory* correctly?

- (a) *Animal Farm* is an allegory, because its animals stand for real people in history.
- (b) The pig allegoried across the yard.
- (c) The barn was very allegory.
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8. Old Major calls the animals *comrades*. What does this word choice show?

- (a) He believes all animals are equal partners.
- (b) He wants to be their dictator.
- (c) He is afraid of them.
- (d) He plans to sell them.

9. Short response (2 points): *Animalism* comes from the root anim (life, spirit). Explain why the name fits Old Major's dream. Use the word *Animalism*.

Sample: Animalism comes from anim, life and spirit. Old Major dreams of a life where animals are free and equal, so the name fits a belief that brings the animals' spirit to life.

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