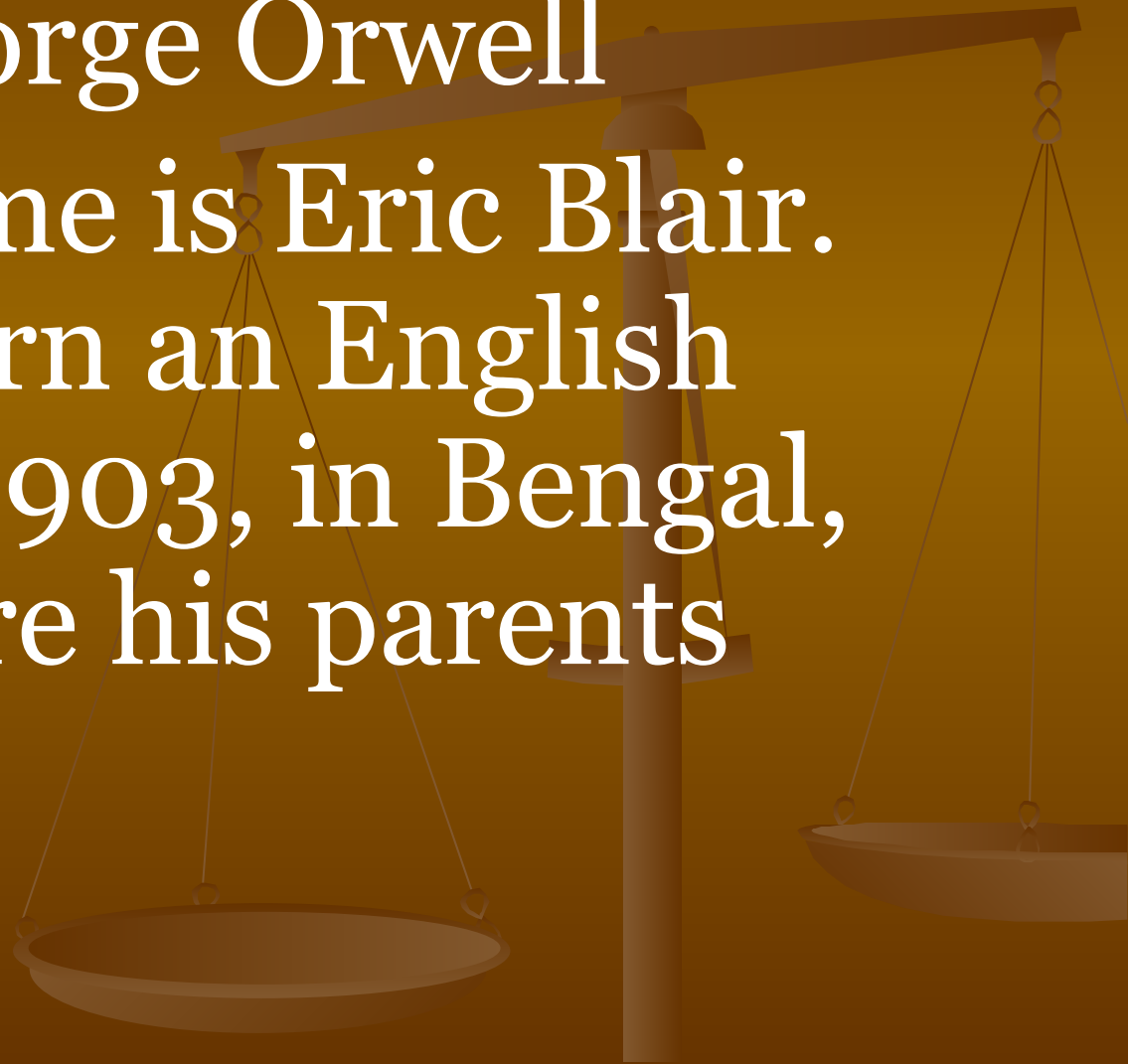


Animal Farm

Author: George Orwell

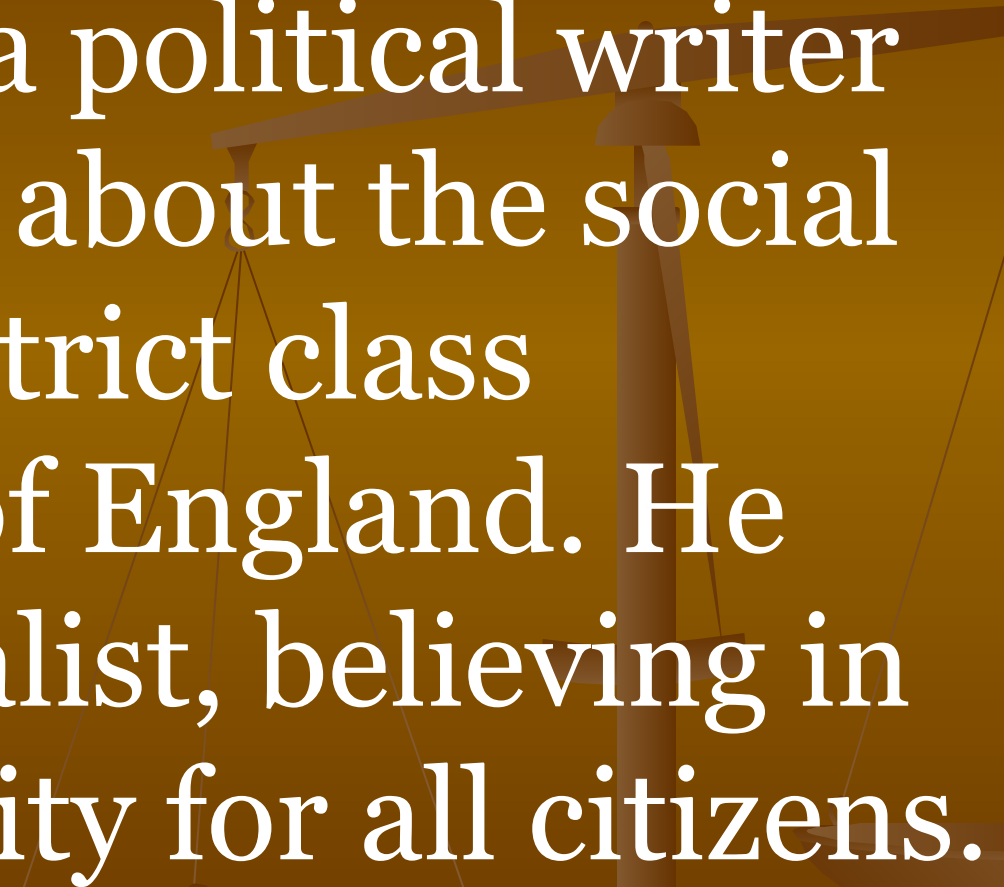
His real name is Eric Blair.

He was born an English citizen in 1903, in Bengal, India where his parents lived.



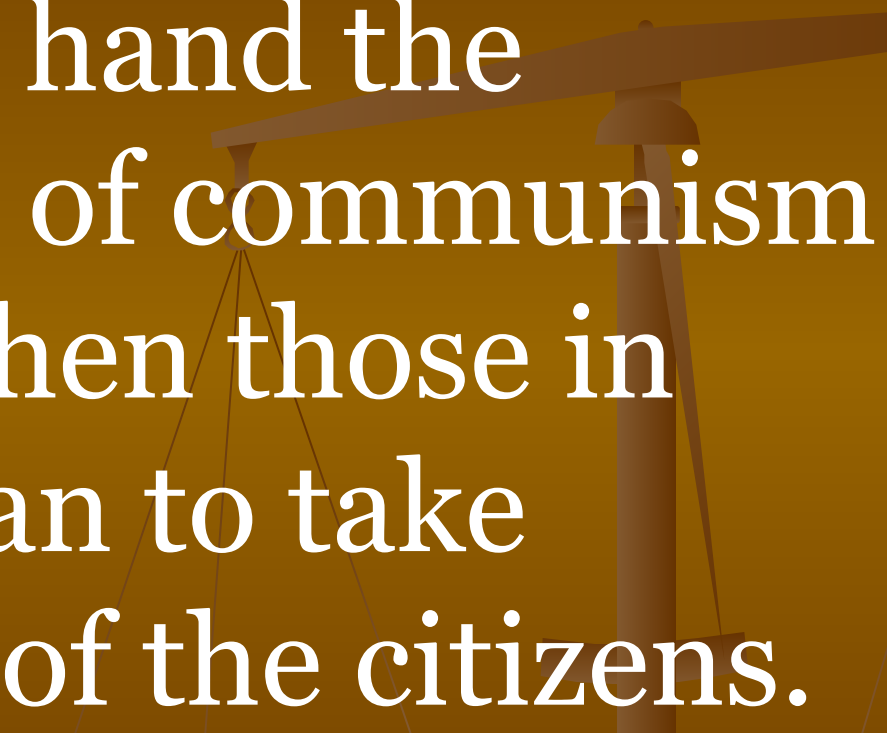
Animal Farm

Orwell was a political writer who wrote about the social ills of the strict class structure of England. He was a socialist, believing in total equality for all citizens.



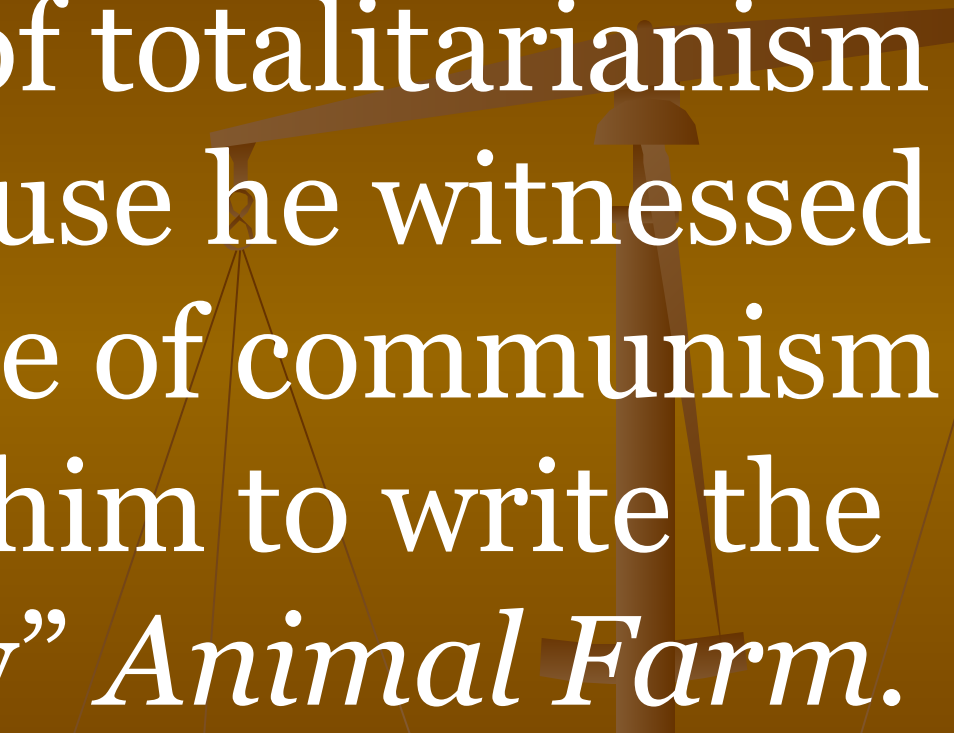
Animal Farm

He saw first hand the corruption of communism in Spain when those in power began to take advantage of the citizens.



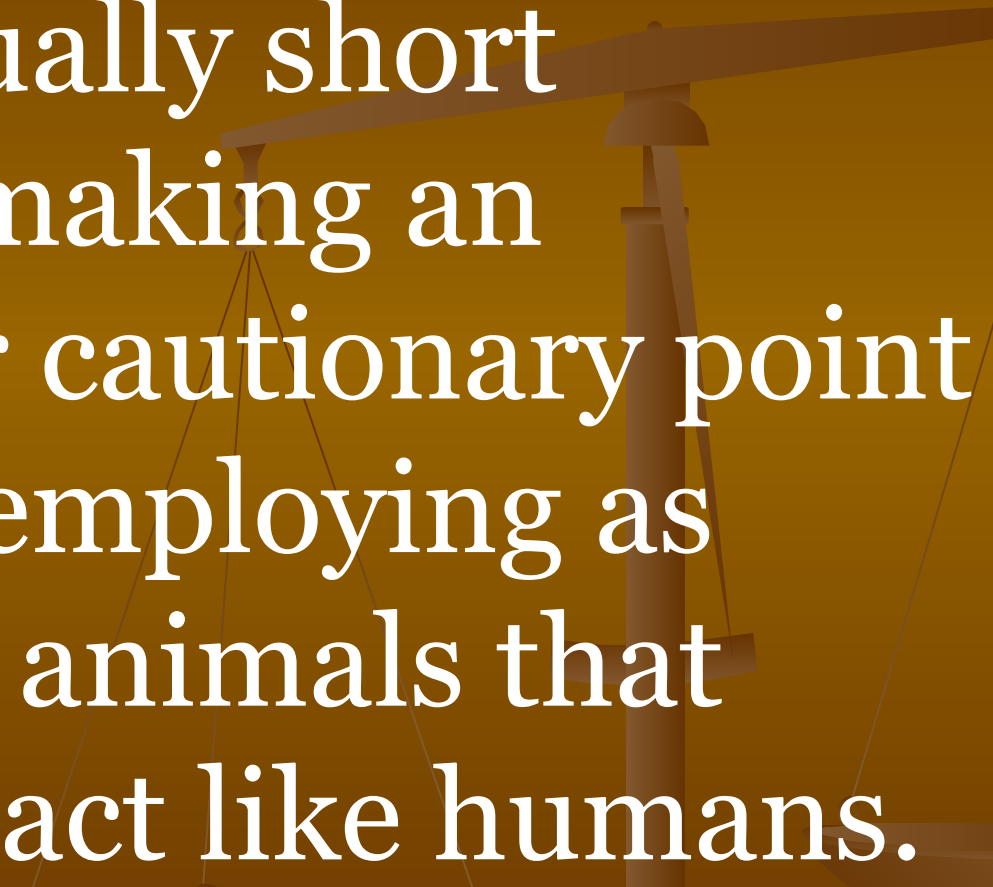
Animal Farm

His hatred of totalitarianism and the abuse he witnessed in the name of communism prompted him to write the “fairy story” *Animal Farm*.



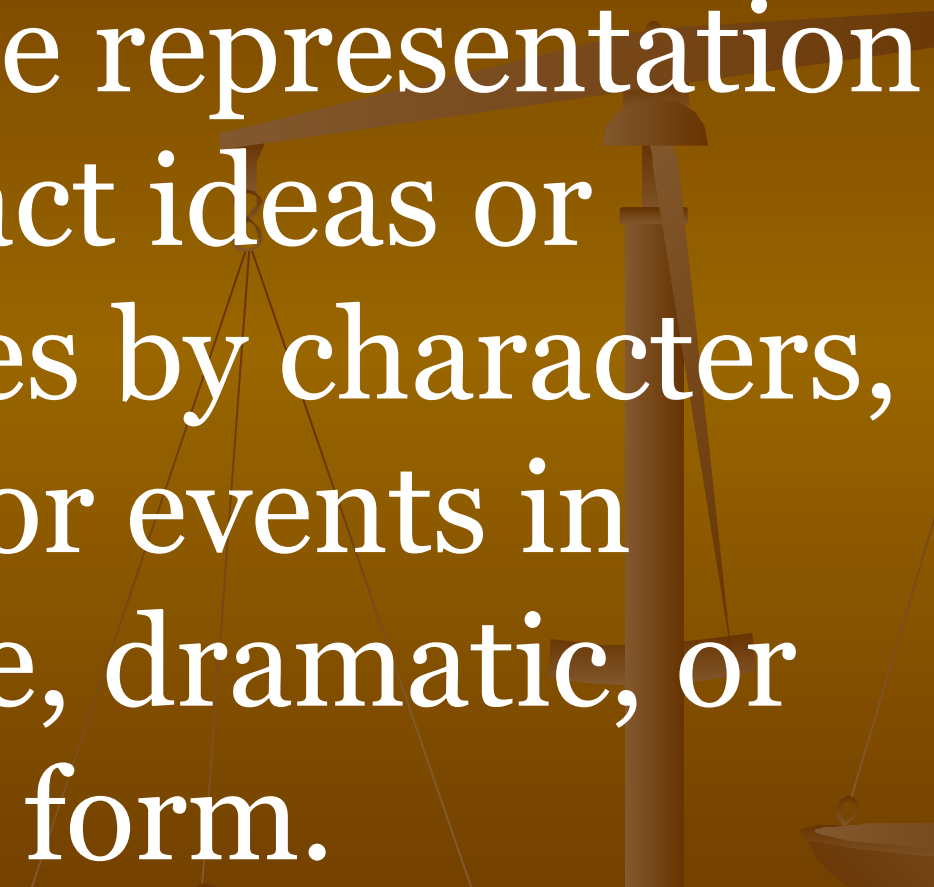
Fable

Fable: A usually short narrative making an edifying or cautionary point and often employing as characters animals that speak and act like humans.



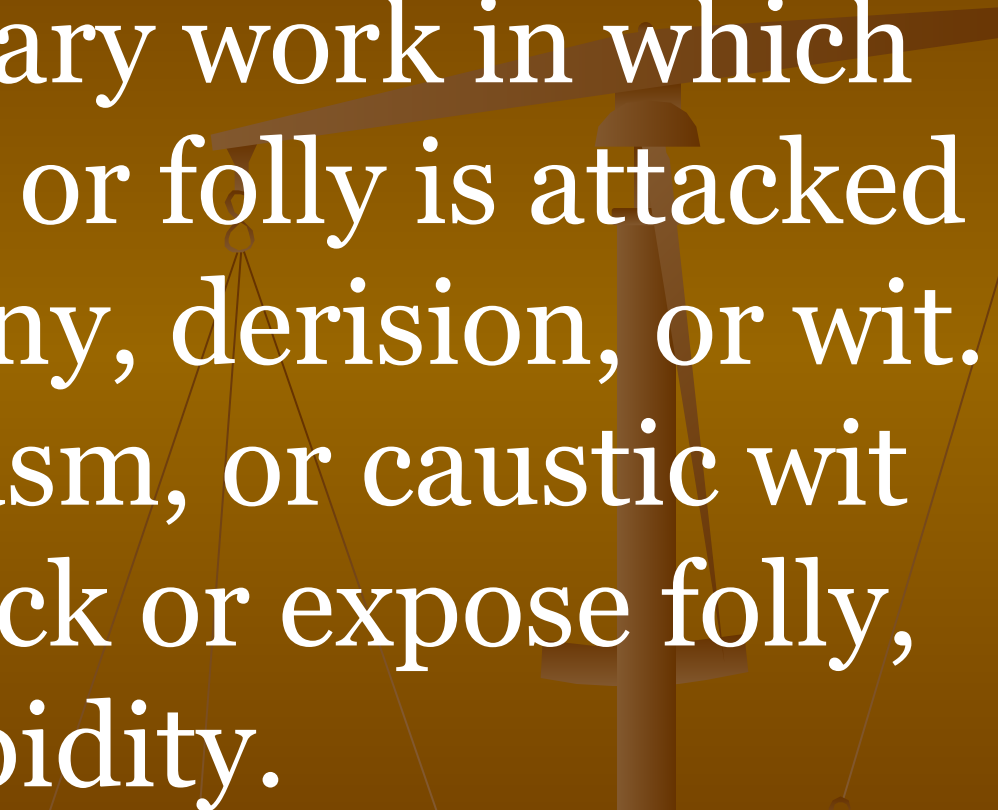
Allegory

Allegory-The representation of abstract ideas or principles by characters, figures, or events in narrative, dramatic, or pictorial form.



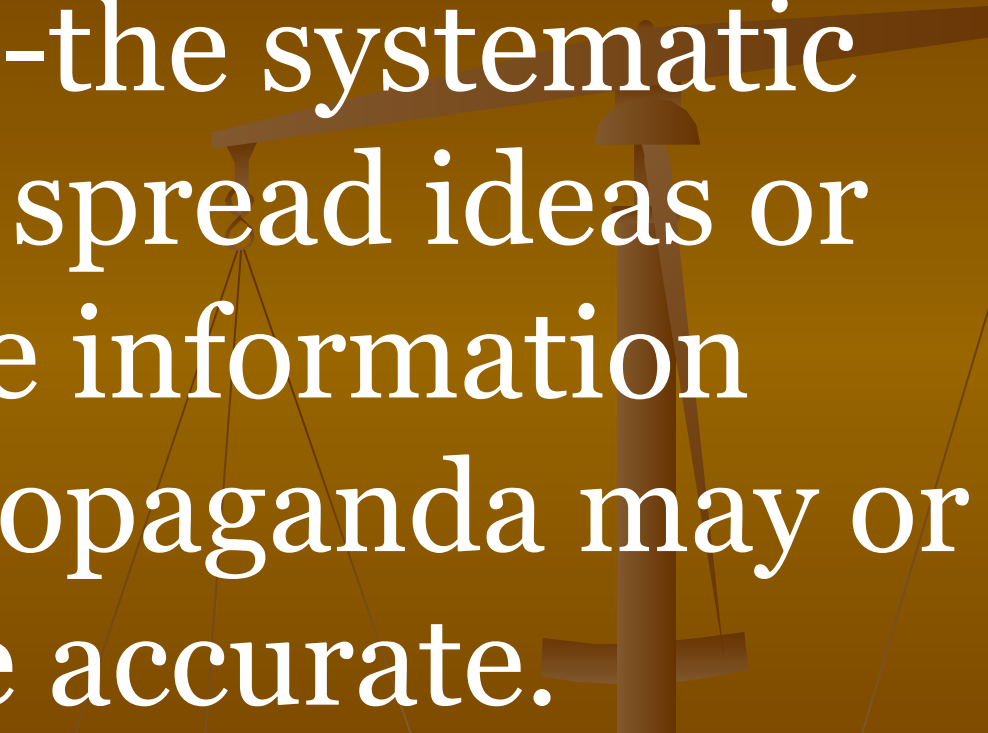
Satire

Satire-A literary work in which human vice or folly is attacked through irony, derision, or wit. Irony, sarcasm, or caustic wit used to attack or expose folly, vice, or stupidity.



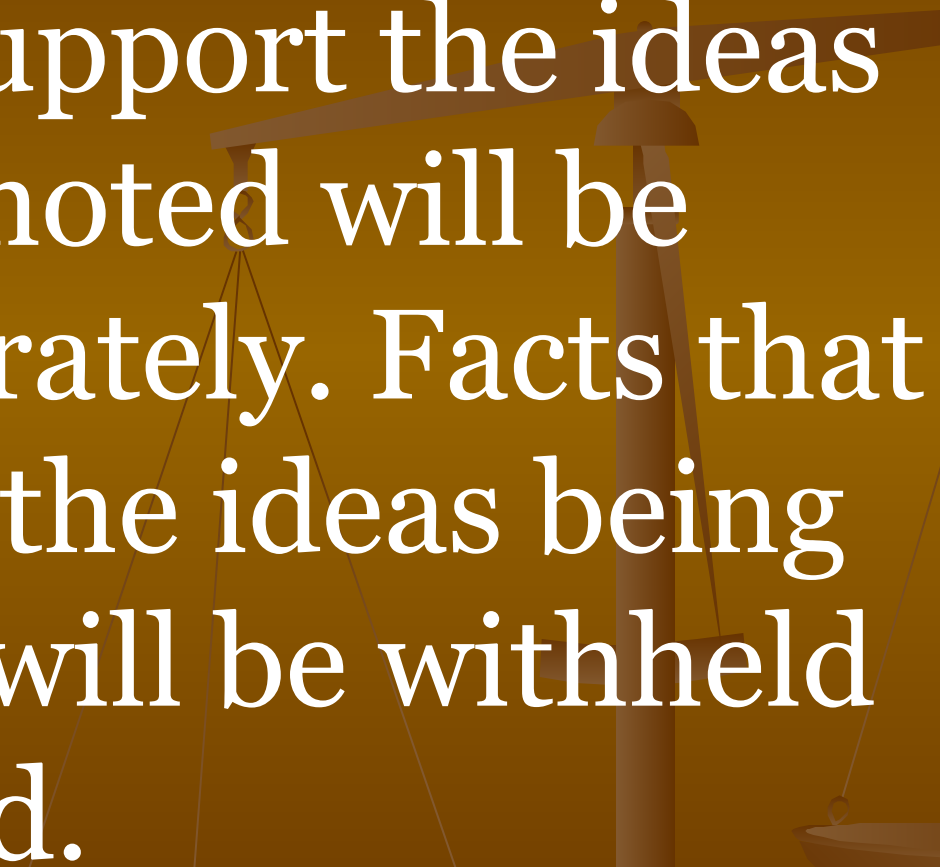
Propaganda

Propaganda-the systematic attempt to spread ideas or beliefs. The information given in propaganda may or may not be accurate.



Propaganda, continued

Facts that support the ideas being promoted will be given accurately. Facts that contradict the ideas being promoted will be withheld or distorted.



Stereotypes

Pigs have a bad name for selfishness and gluttony.



Stereotypes

Horses are
slow-witted,
strong, gentle,
and loyal.



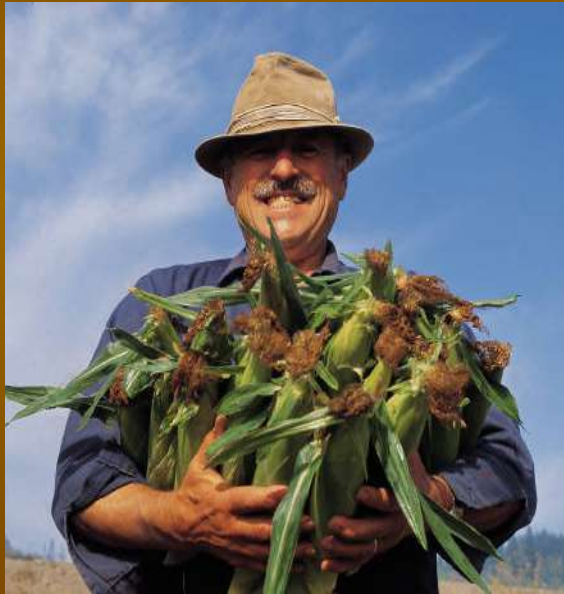
Stereotypes

Sheep are
brainless and
behave as a
flock, without
individual
initiative.

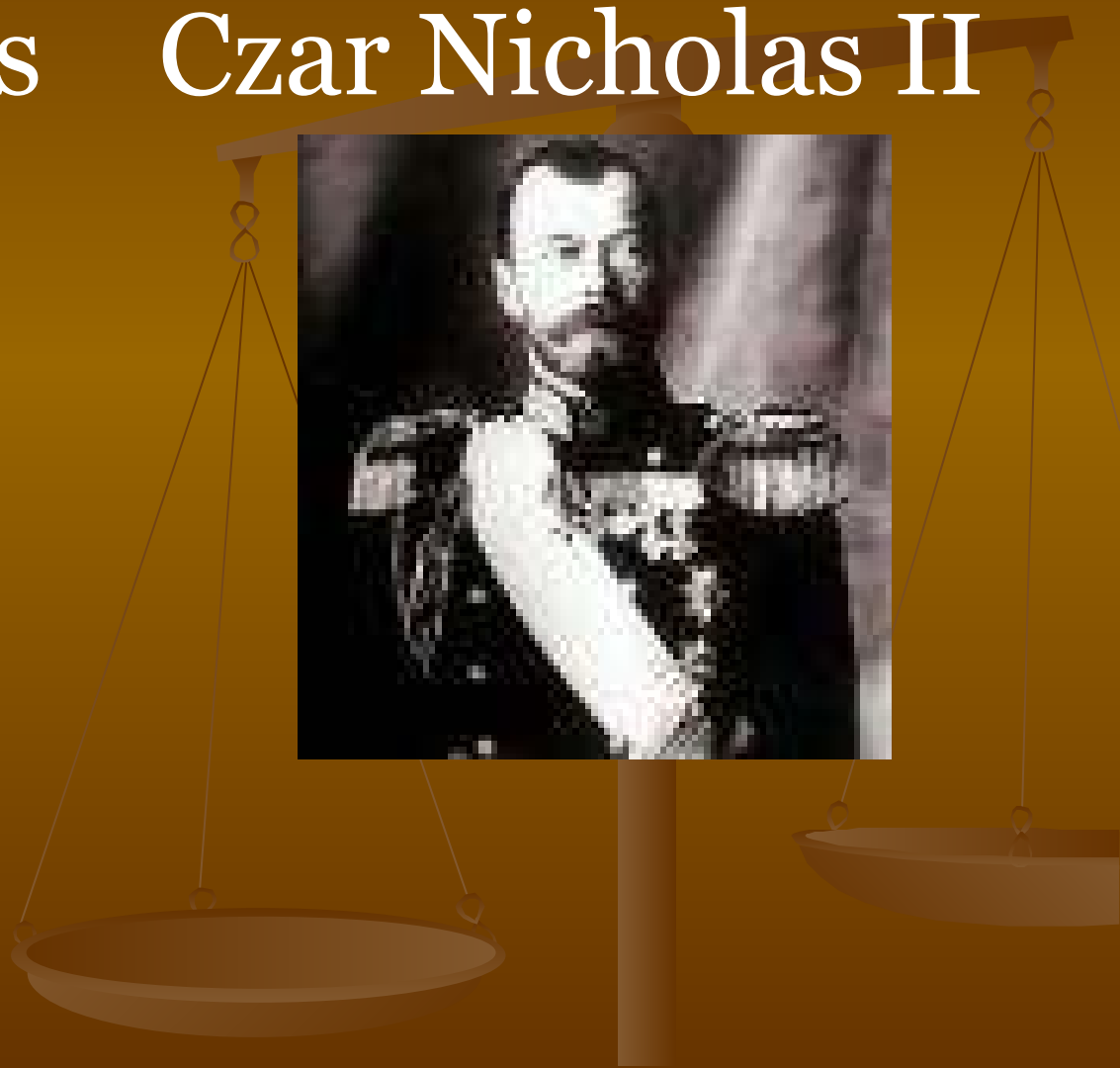


Characters

Farmer Jones



Czar Nicholas II

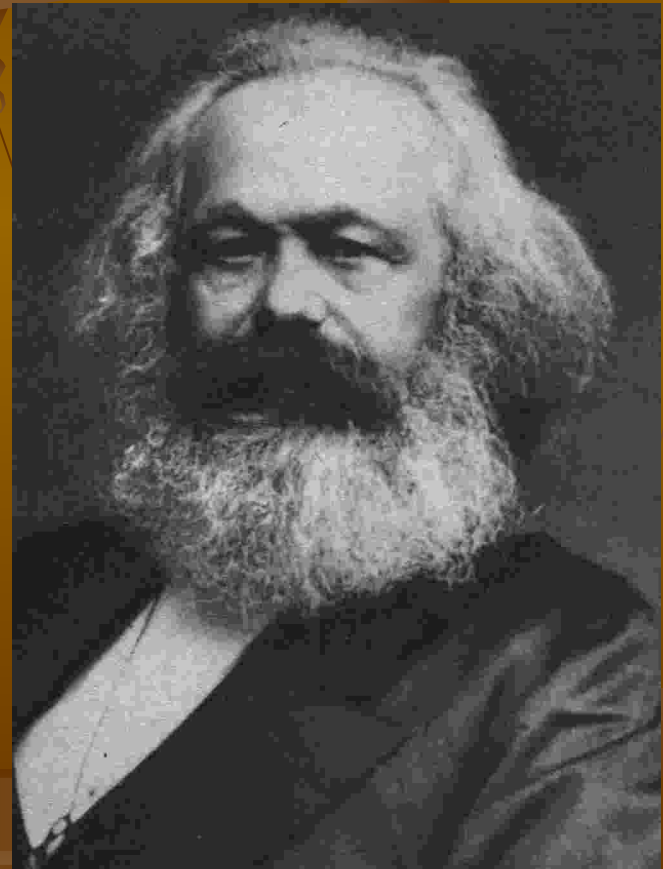


Characters

Old Major



Karl Marx



Characters

Snowball



Trotsky



Characters

Napoleon

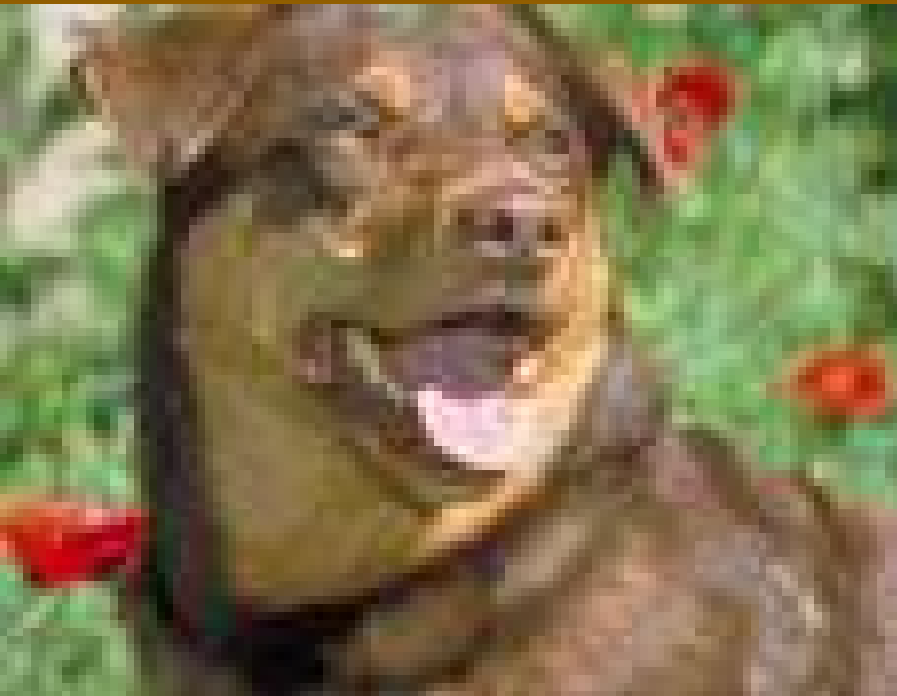


Stalin



Characters

Dogs



KGB-secret
police

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Characters

Moses

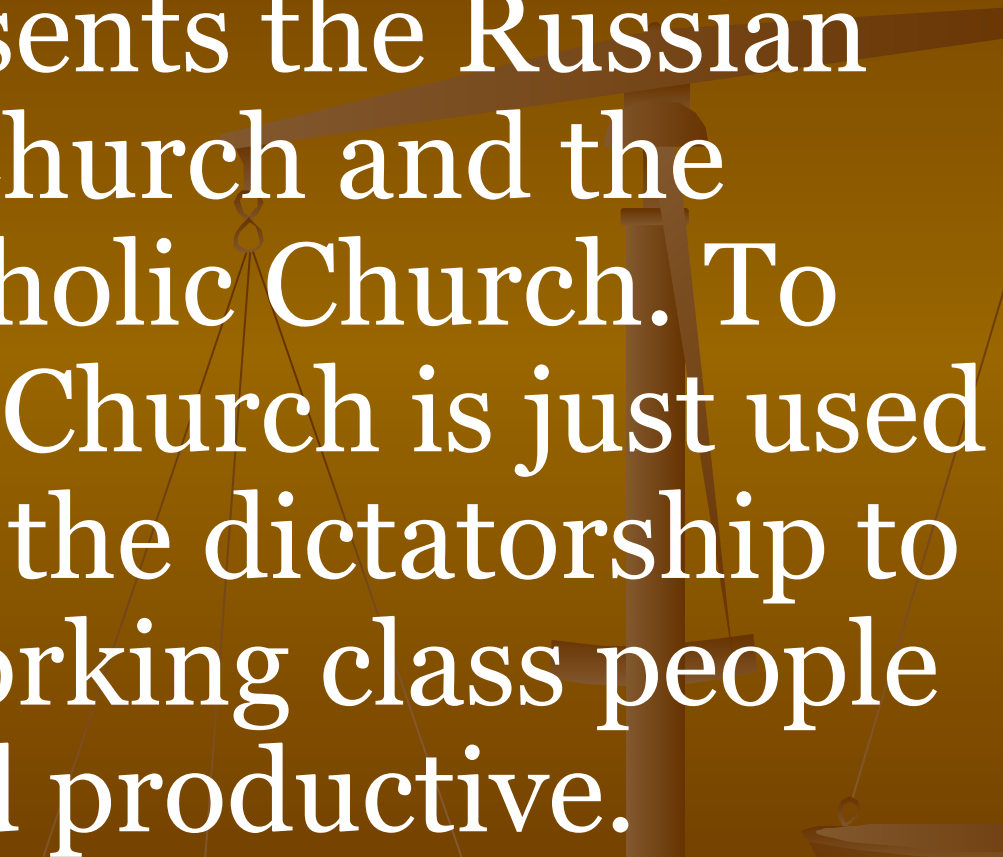


Church(religion)



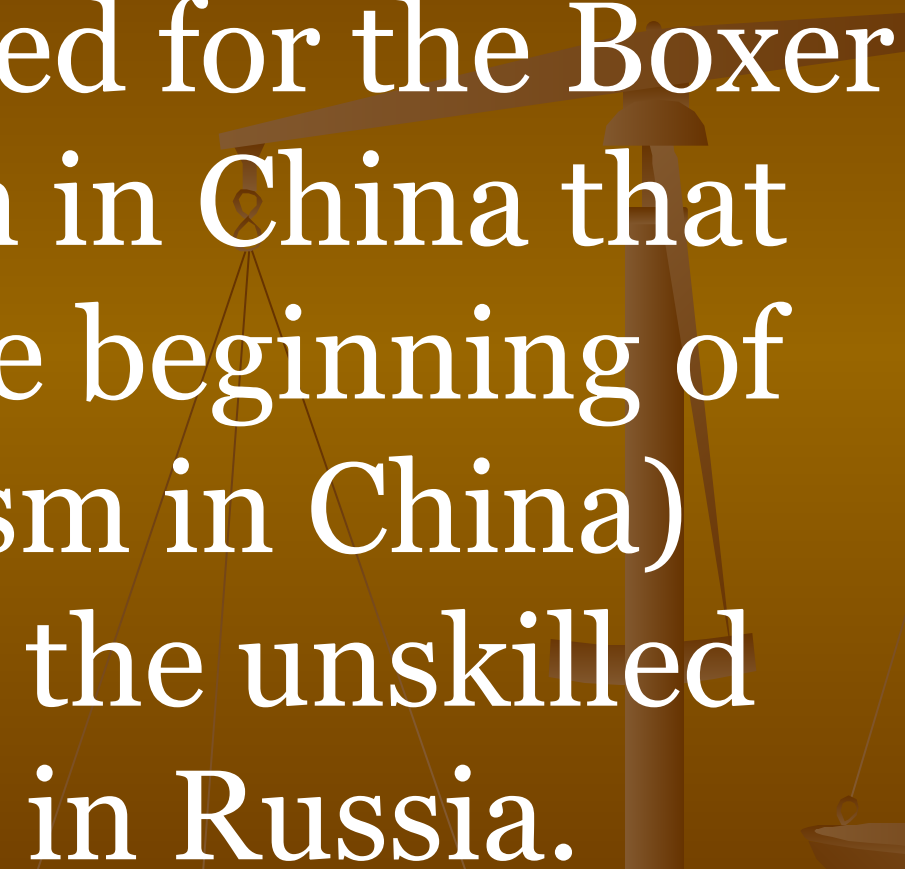
Moses

Moses represents the Russian Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church. To Orwell, the Church is just used as a tool by the dictatorship to keep the working class people hopeful and productive.



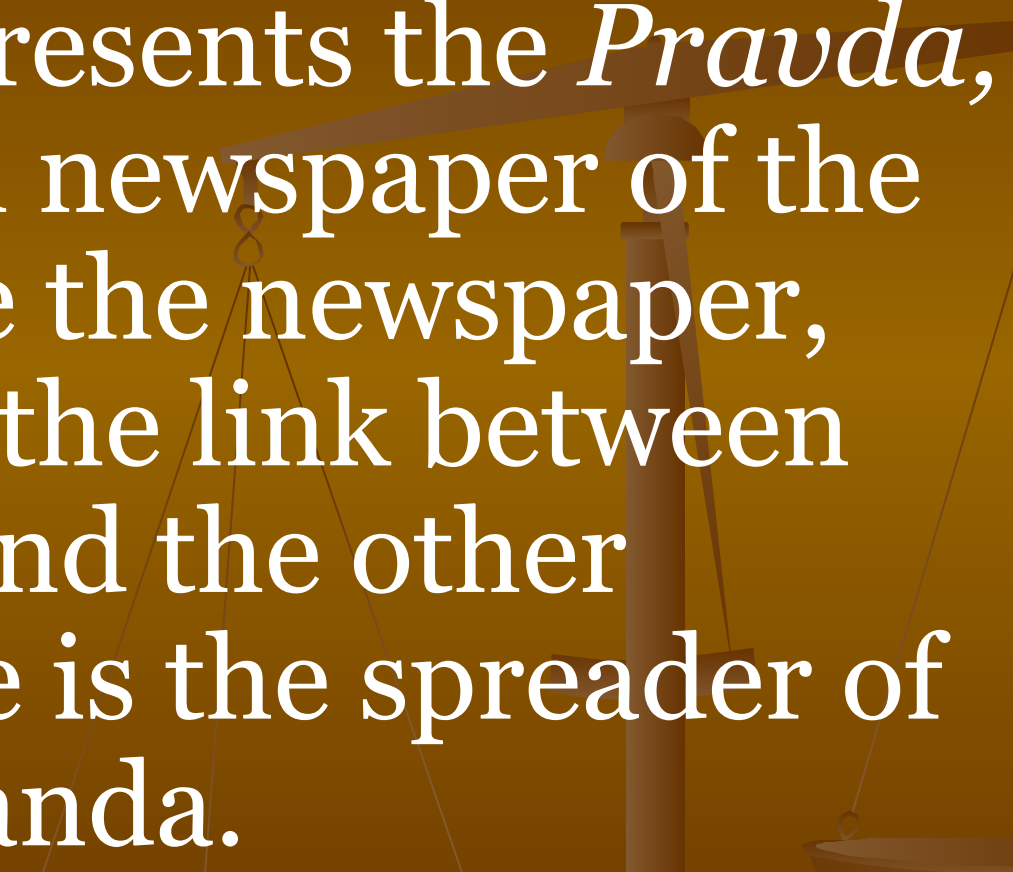
Boxer

Boxer (named for the Boxer Revolution in China that marked the beginning of Communism in China) represents the unskilled labor class in Russia.



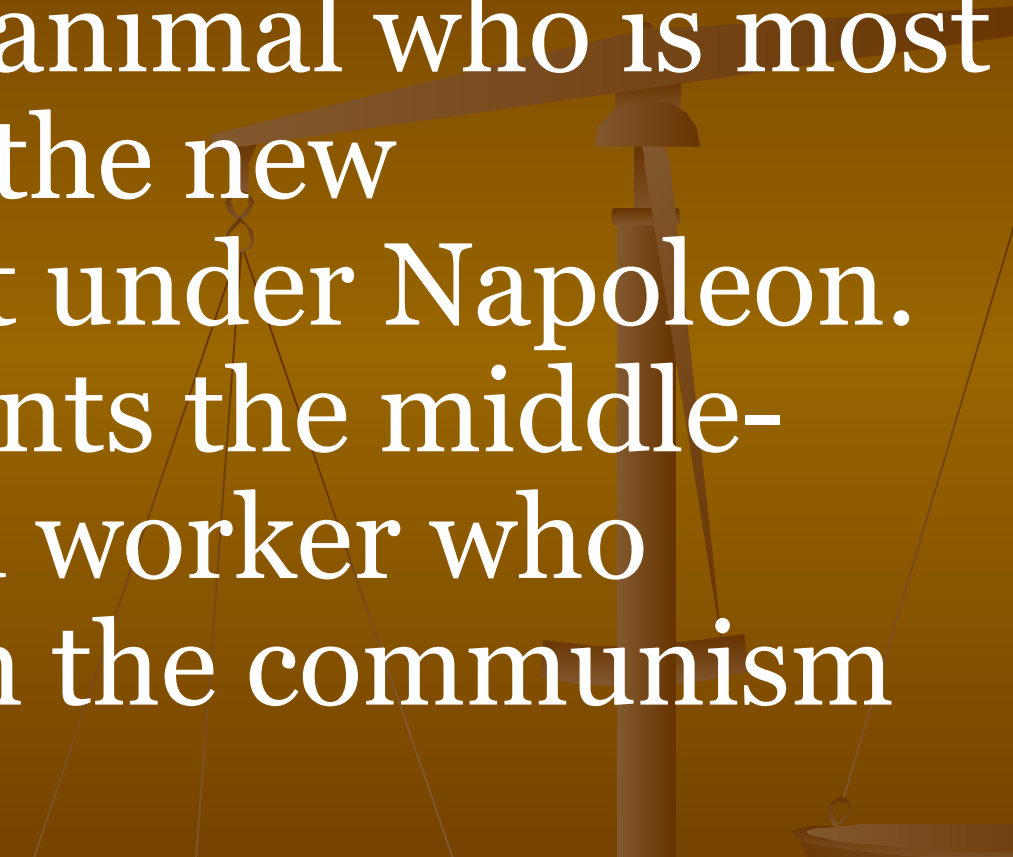
Squealer

Squealer represents the *Pravda*, the Russian newspaper of the 1930's. Like the newspaper, Squealer is the link between Napoleon and the other animals. He is the spreader of the propaganda.



Mollie

Mollie is the animal who is most opposed to the new government under Napoleon. She represents the middle-class skilled worker who suffers from the communism concept.



Major Conflicts

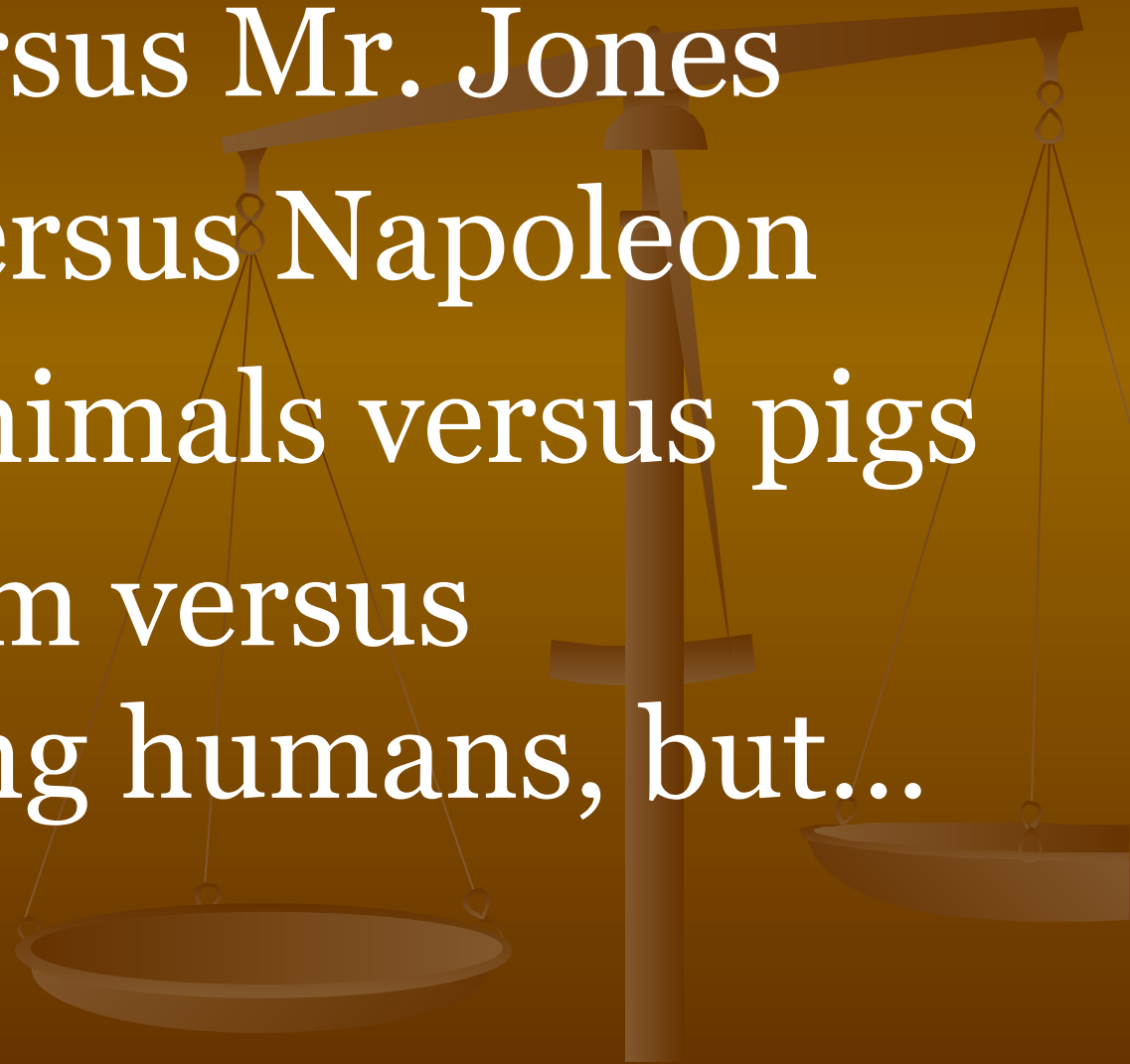
Animals versus Mr. Jones

Snowball versus Napoleon

Common animals versus pigs

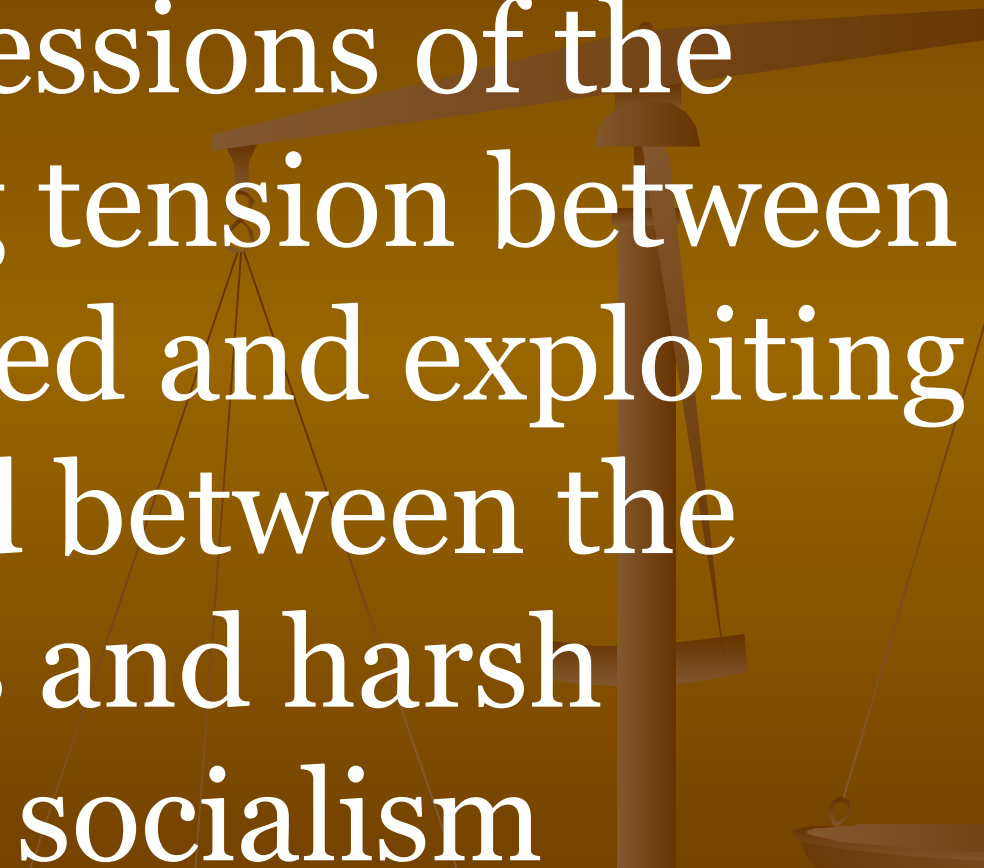
Animal Farm versus

neighboring humans, but...



Major Conflicts

All are expressions of the underlying tension between the exploited and exploiting classes and between the lofty ideals and harsh realities of socialism



Other minor characters

Pilkington-

Churchill/England

Frederick-Hitler (after

Frederick the Great whom

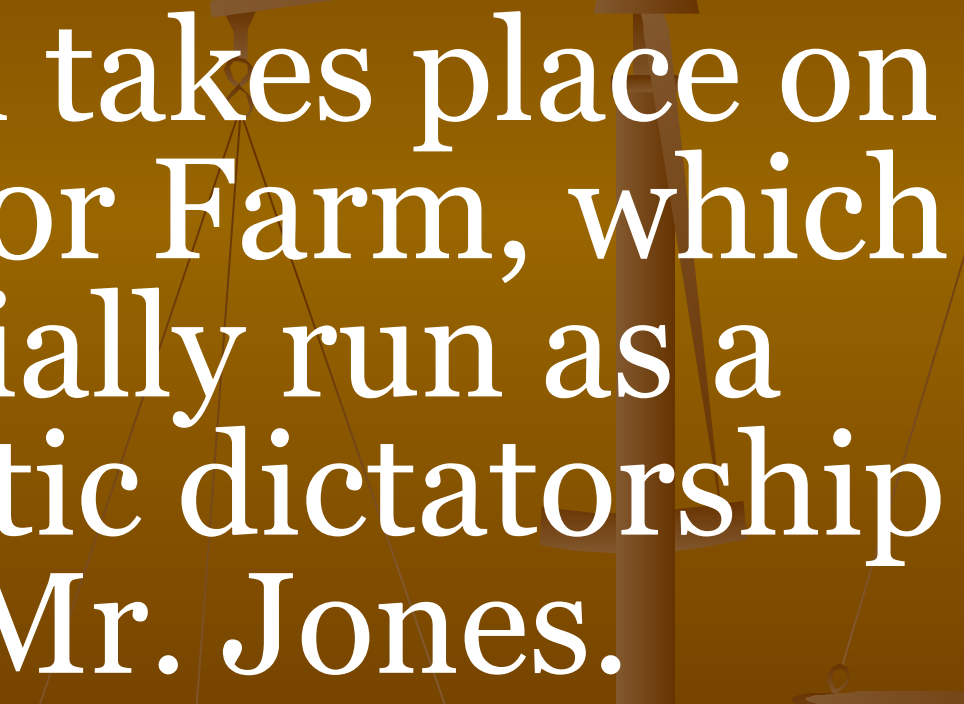
Hitler admired)



Animal Farm

The Setting:

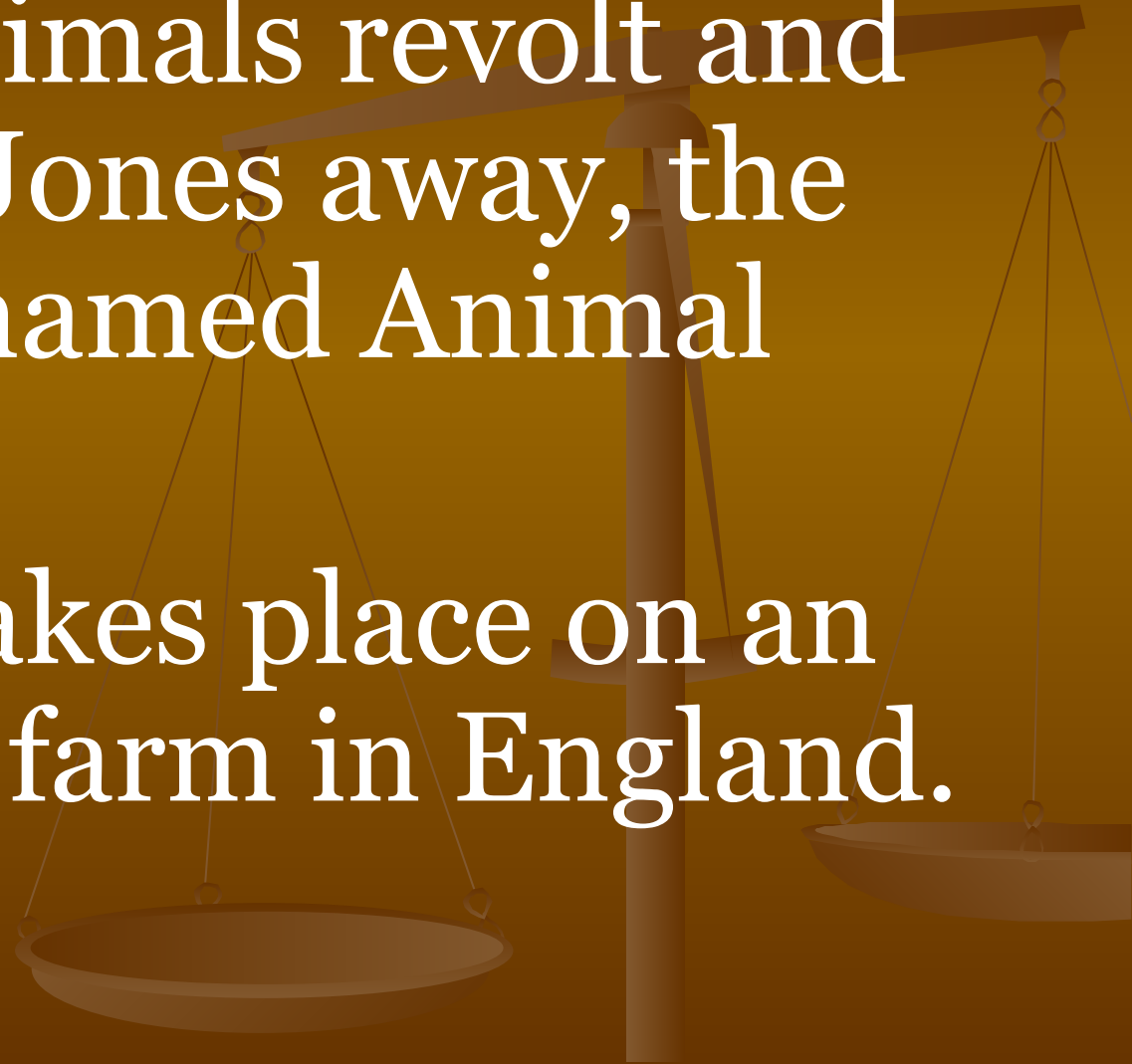
The novel takes place on the Manor Farm, which is initially run as a capitalistic dictatorship by Mr. Jones.



Animal Farm, the setting

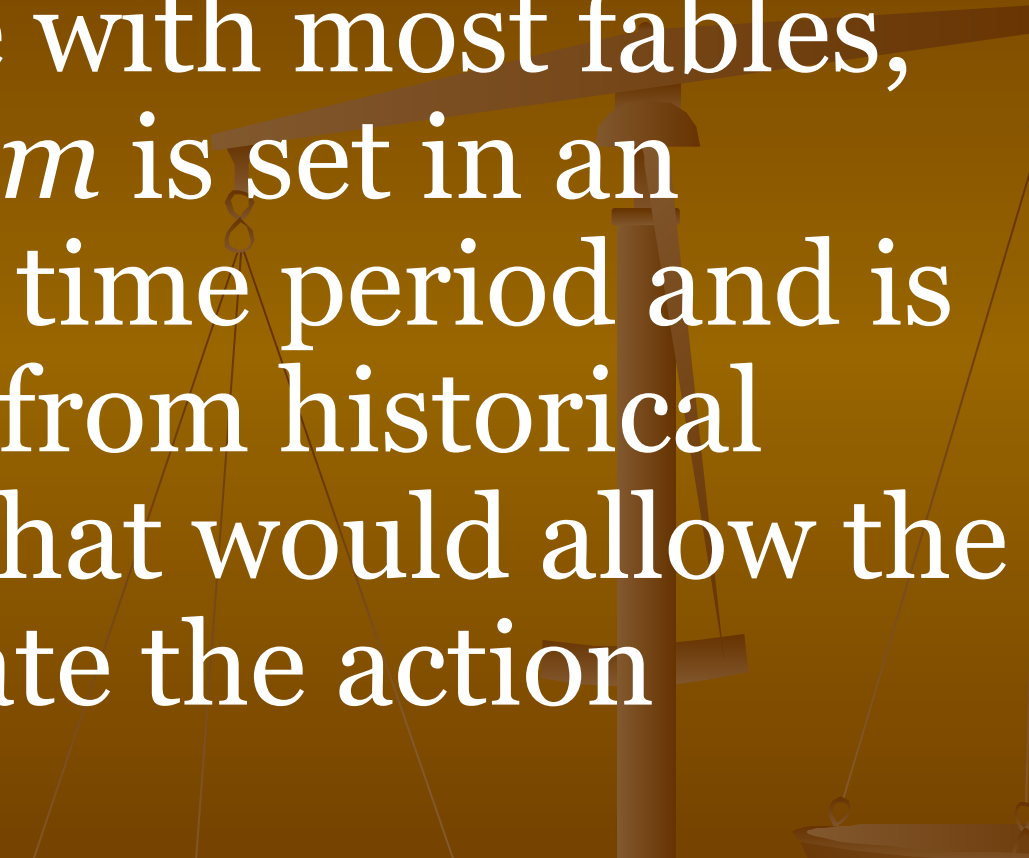
After the animals revolt and drive Mr. Jones away, the farm is renamed Animal Farm.

The novel takes place on an imaginary farm in England.



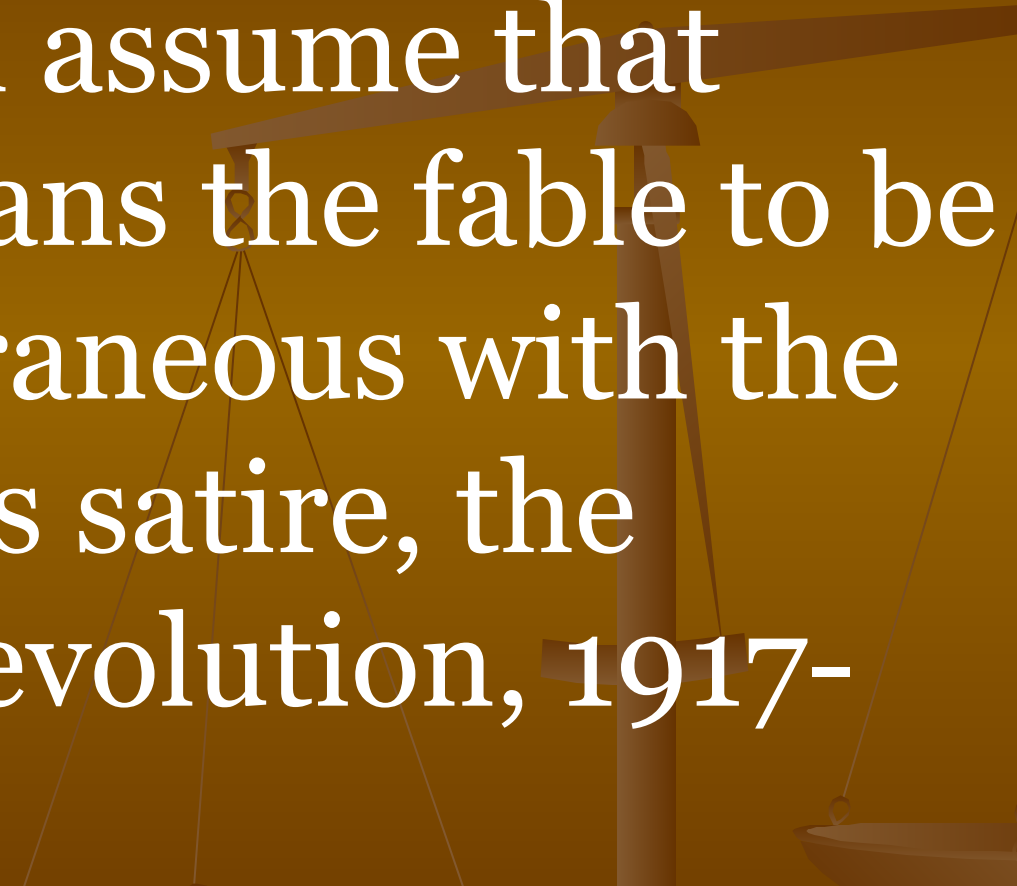
Animal Farm, the setting

As is the case with most fables, *Animal Farm* is set in an unspecified time period and is largely free from historical references that would allow the reader to date the action precisely.



Animal Farm, the setting

Readers can assume that Orwell means the fable to be contemporaneous with the object of its satire, the Russian Revolution, 1917-1945.



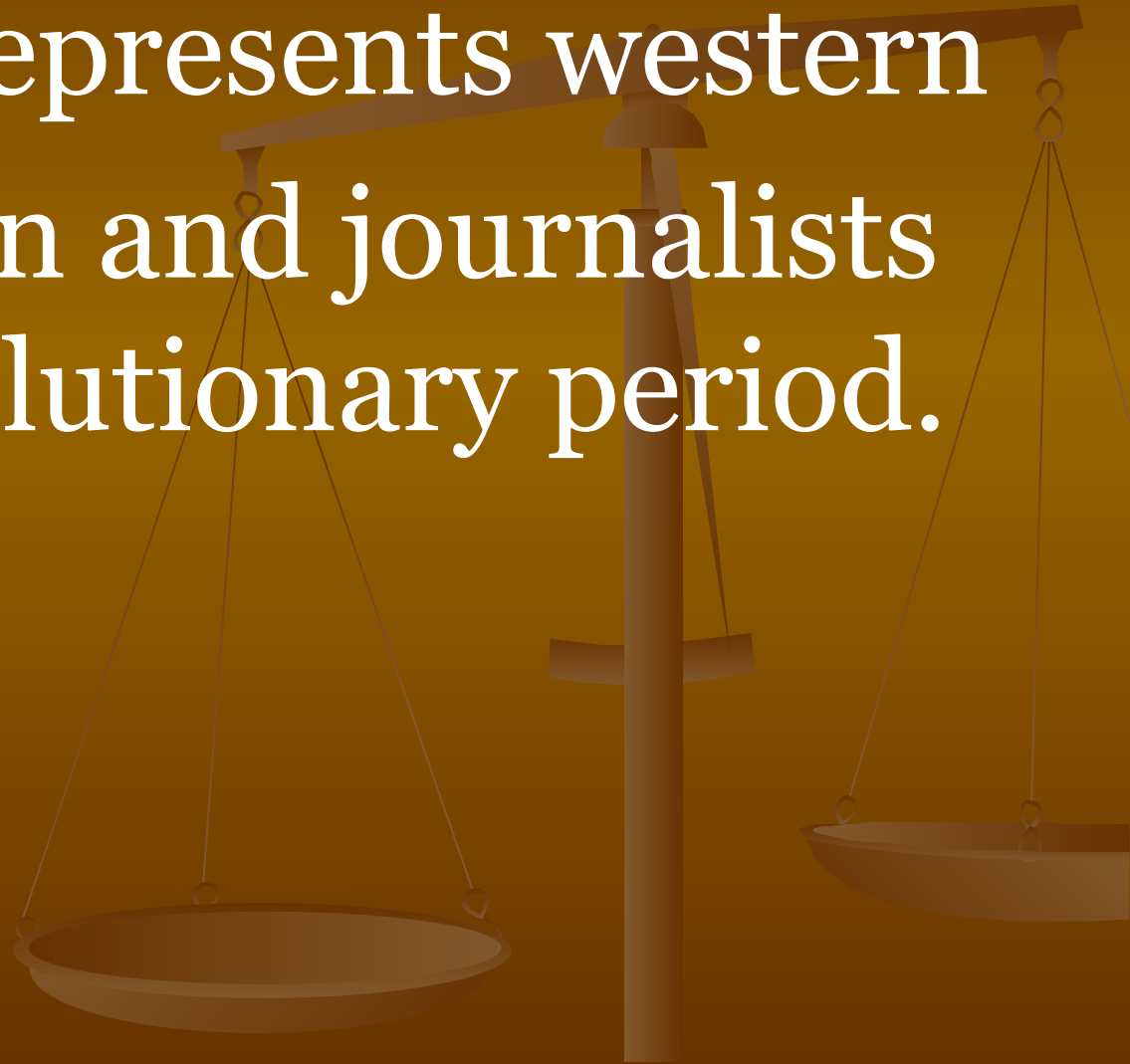
Point of View

Third person uninvolved
narrator—unlimited,
omniscient



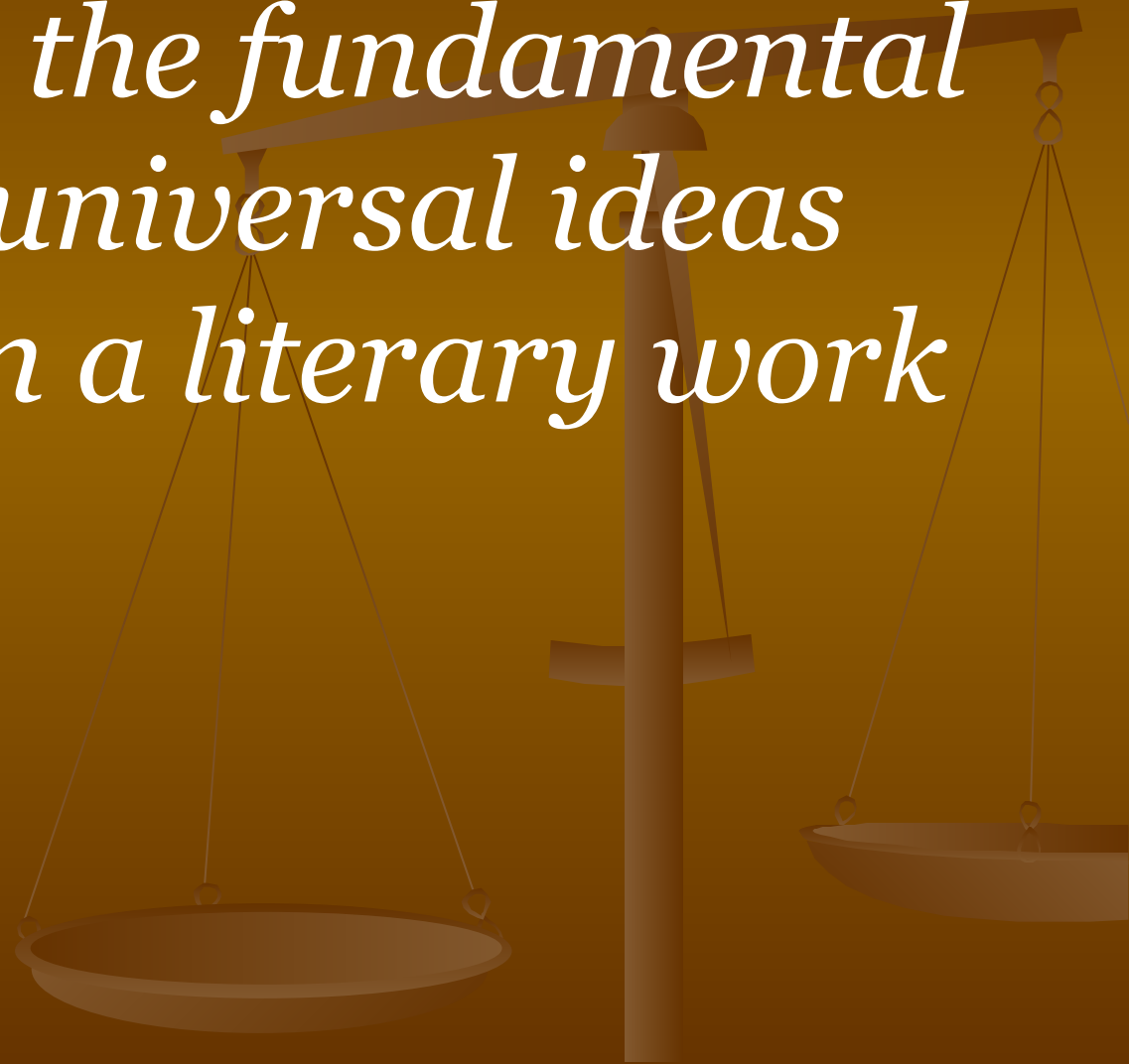
Other minor Characters

Whymper represents western businessmen and journalists of the revolutionary period.



Theme

Themes are the fundamental and often universal ideas explored in a literary work



Themes

The corruption of socialist
ideals in the Soviet Union;



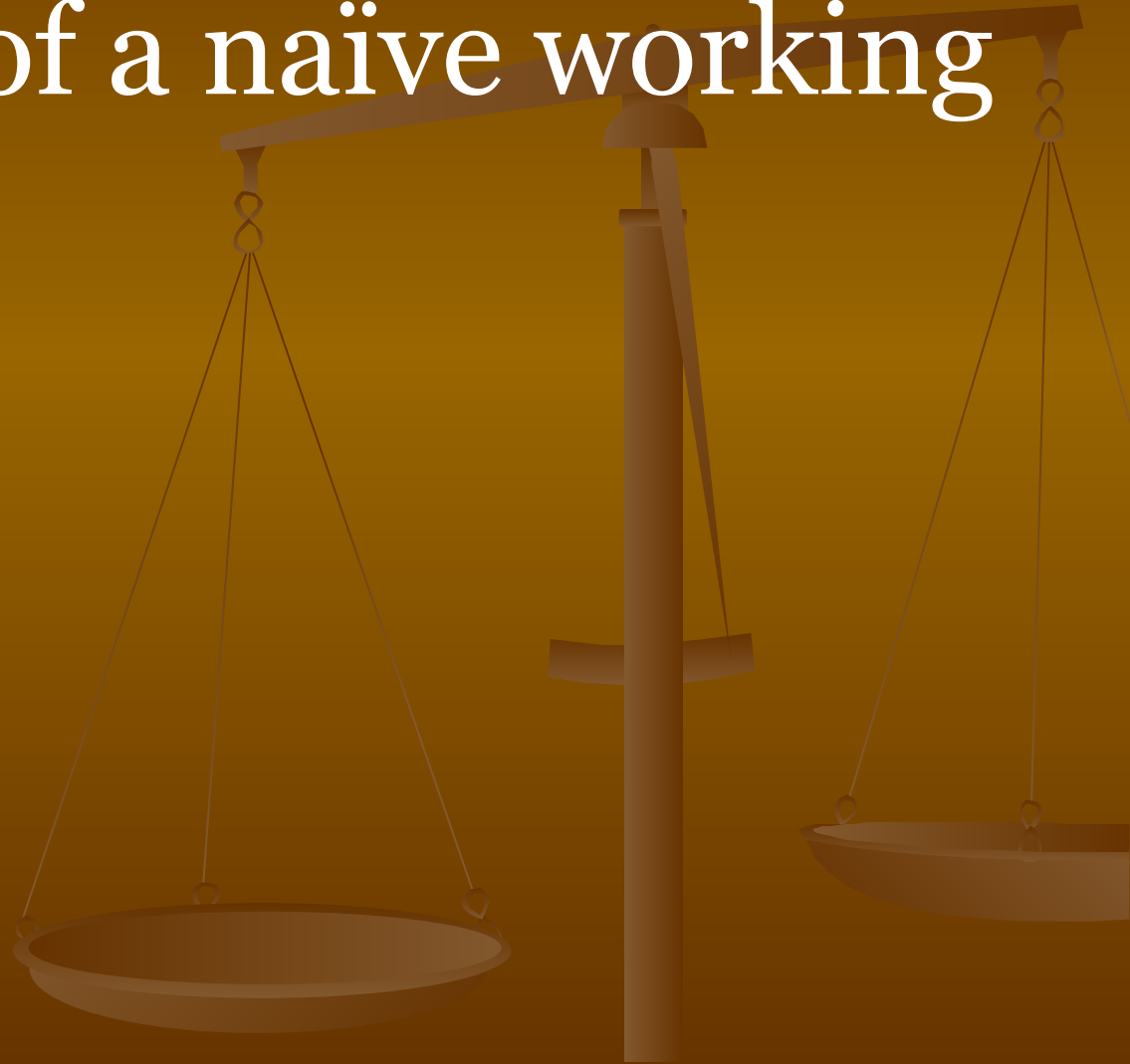
Themes

the societal tendency toward
class stratification;



Themes

the danger of a naïve working
class;



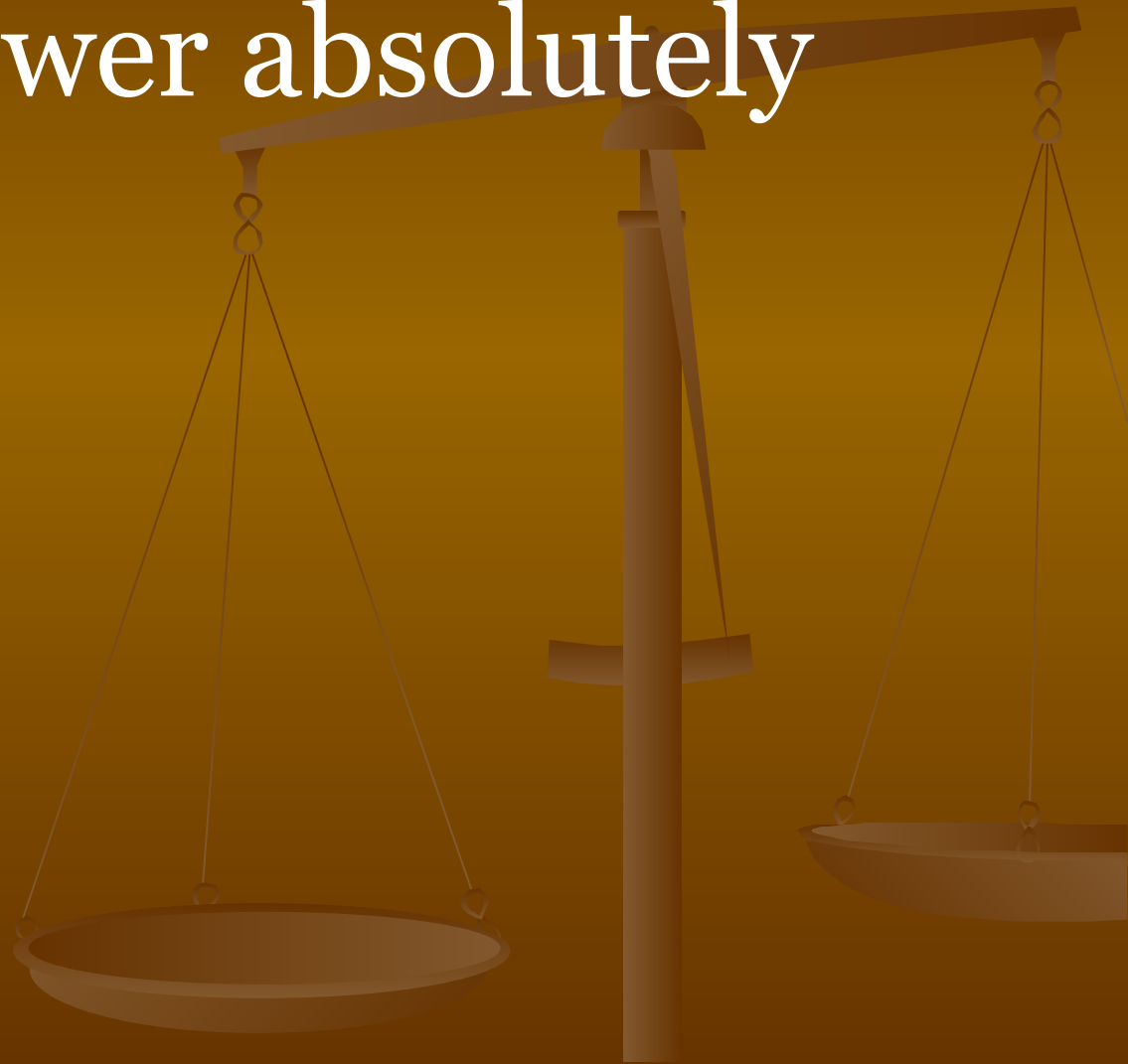
Themes

the abuse of language as
instrumental to the abuse of
power



Themes

Absolute power absolutely
corrupts.



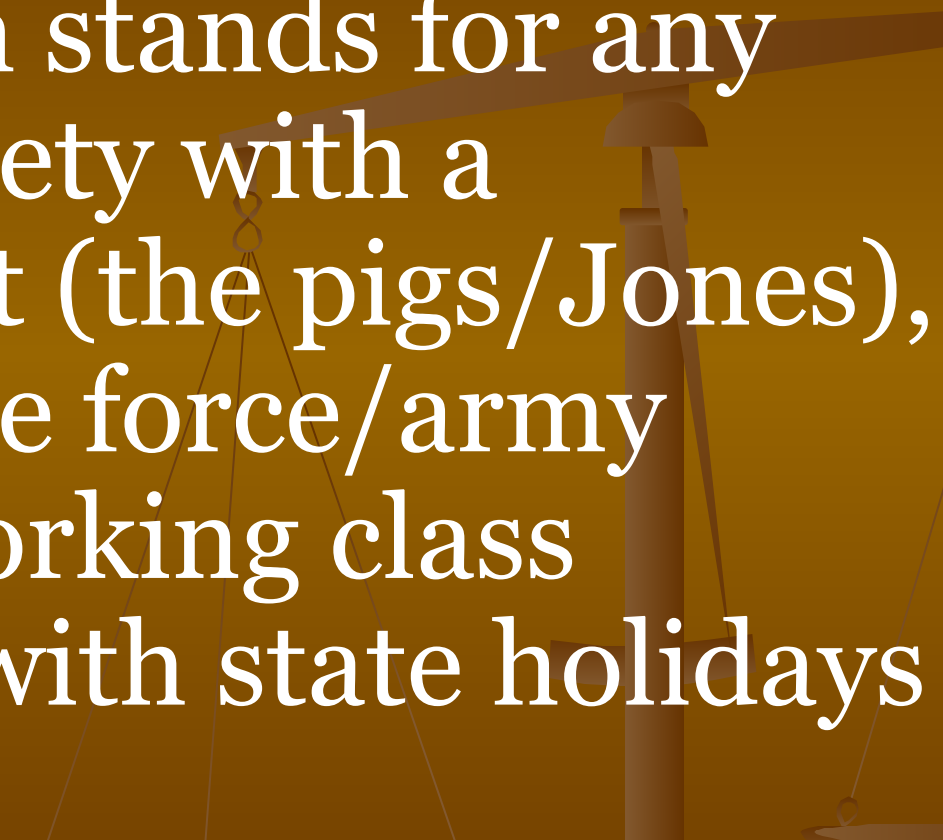
Symbols/Metaphors

Manor Farm symbolizes
Russia and the Soviet Union
under Communist Party
rule.



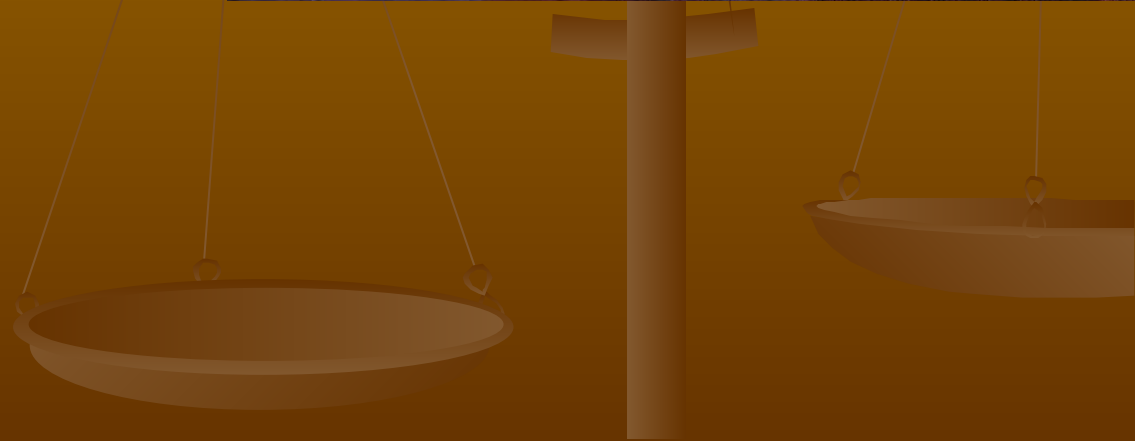
Symbols/Metaphors

Animal Farm stands for any human society with a government (the pigs/Jones), with a police force/army (dogs), a working class (animals), with state holidays and rituals.



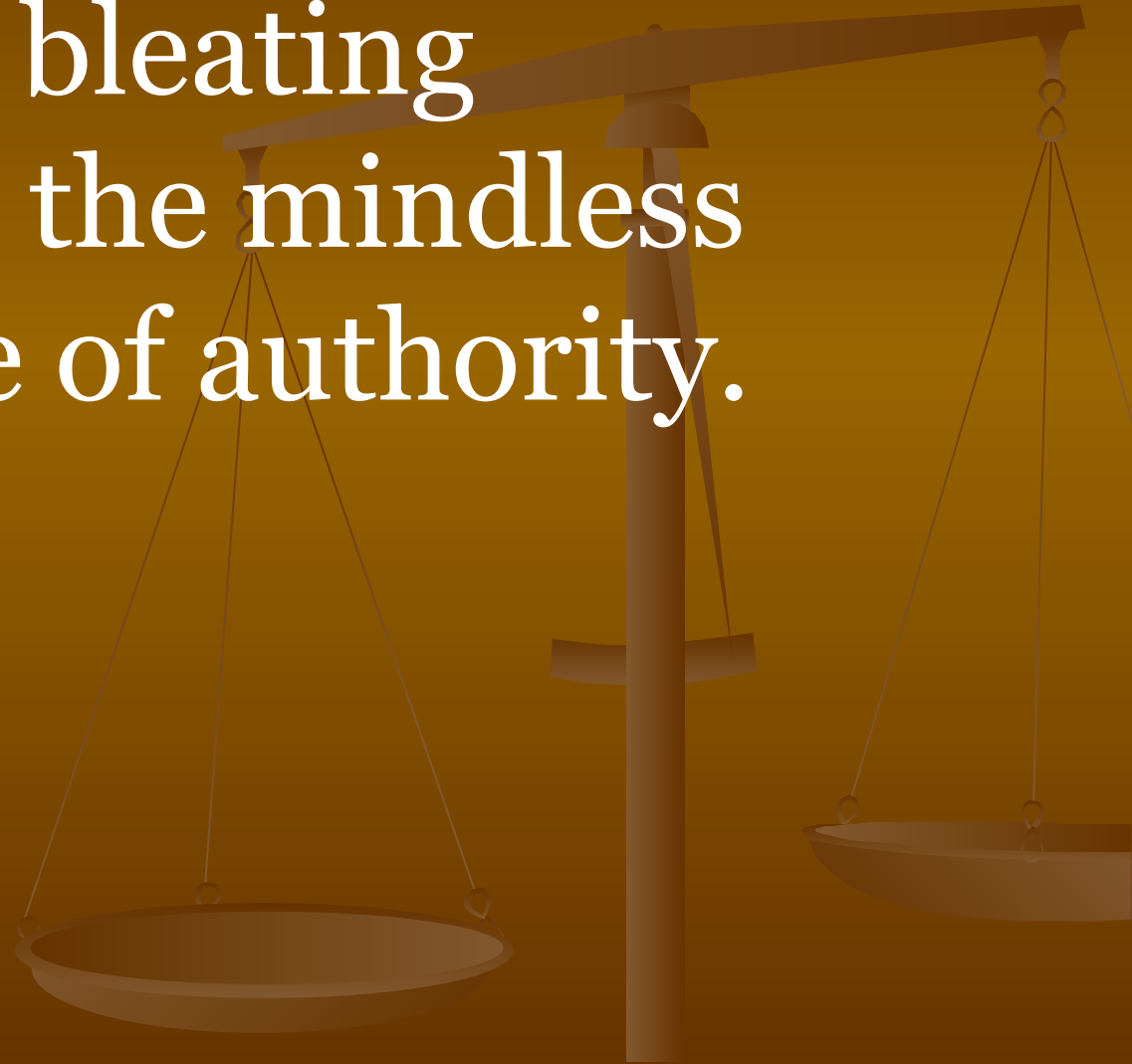
Symbols/Metaphors

The windmill represents progress and industrialization.



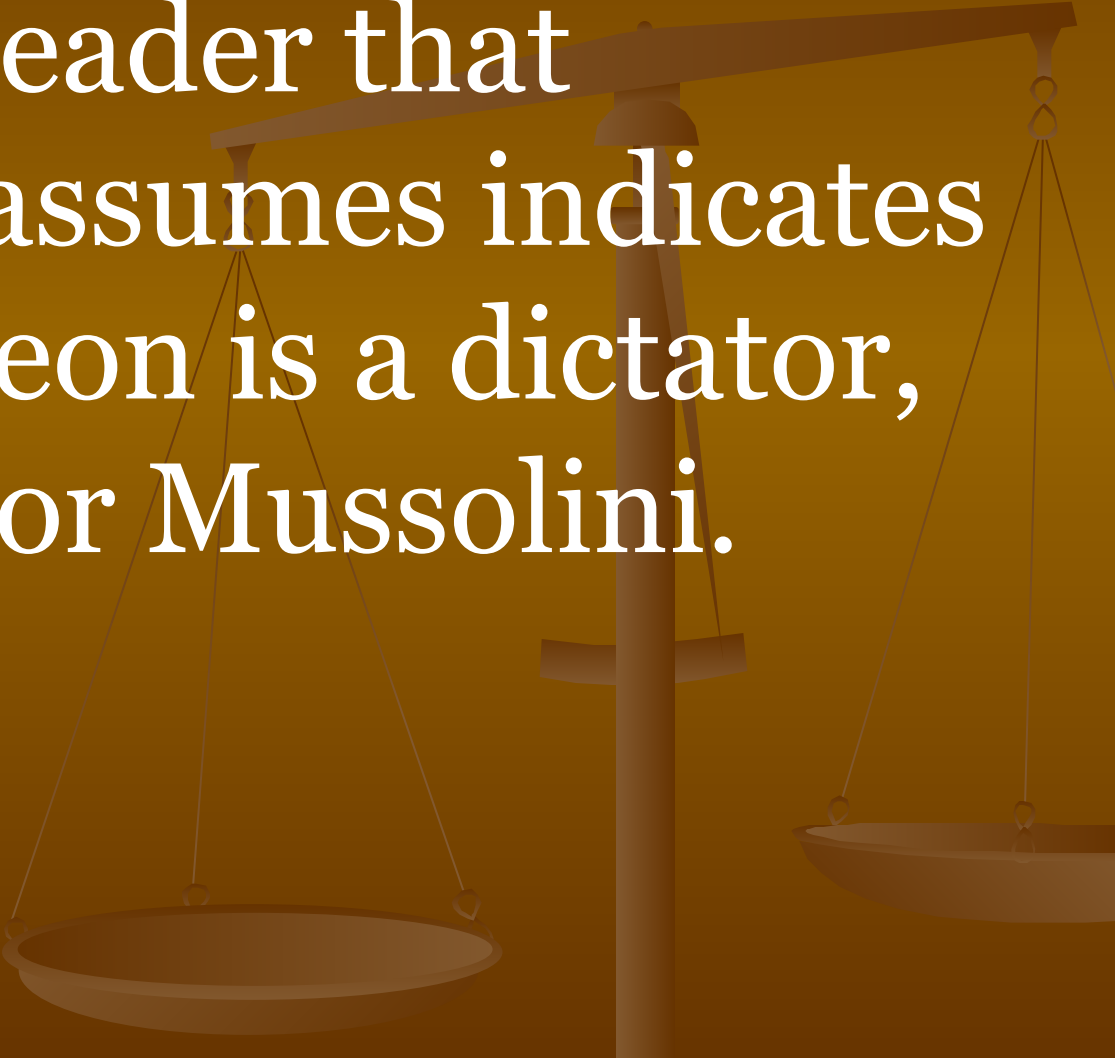
Symbols/Metaphors

The sheep's bleating
represents the mindless
acceptance of authority.



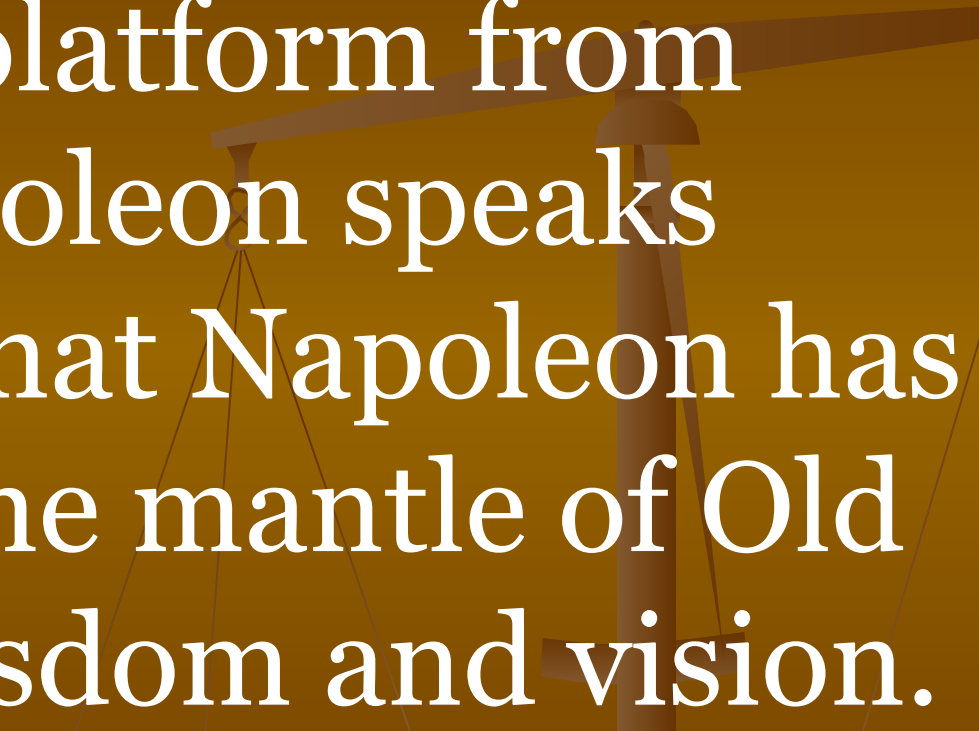
Symbols/Metaphors

The title of leader that Napoleon assumes indicates that Napoleon is a dictator, like Hitler or Mussolini.



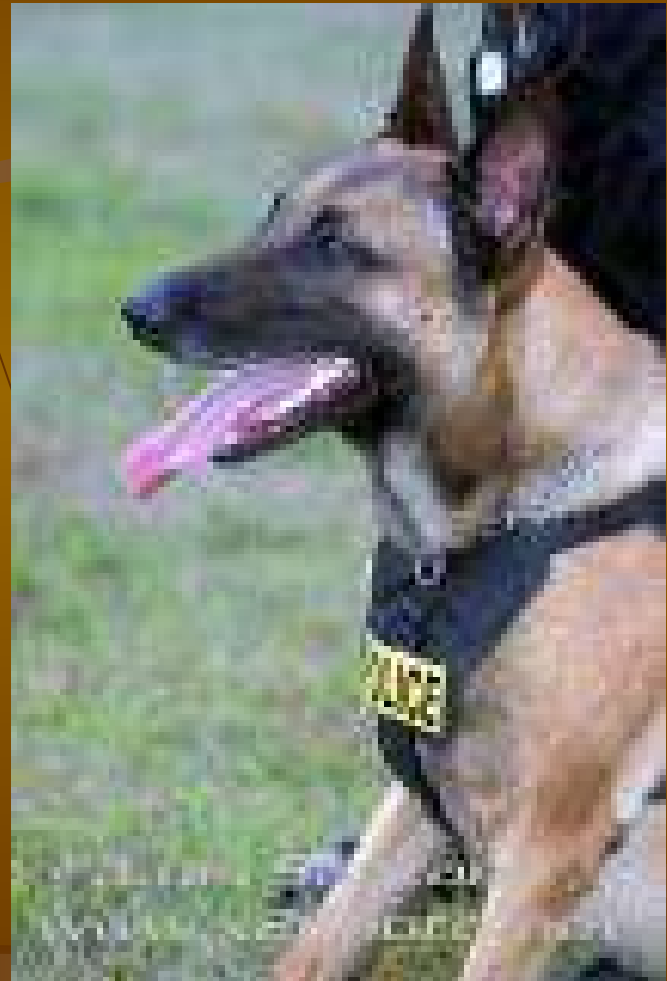
Symbols/Metaphors

The raised platform from which Napoleon speaks indicates that Napoleon has assumed the mantle of Old Major's wisdom and vision.



Symbols/Metaphors

The dogs, of course, represent the power of a police state.



Symbols/Metaphors

Mollie's ribbons represent
the allure/attraction of the
pre-revolutionary times.

