

1. poultice-----poultice

a medical dressing spread on a cloth and applied to the skin

*Clover treated the hoof with **poultices** of herbs which she prepared by chewing them, and both she and Benjamin urged Boxer to work less hard.*

2. pension

regular payment to allow a person to subsist without working

*Liberal old-age **pensions** had been agreed upon.*

3. superannuated

too old to be useful

*Now that the small field beyond the orchard had been set aside for barley, it was rumored that a corner of the large pasture was to be fenced off and turned into a grazing-ground for **superannuated** animals.*

4. readjustment

the act of correcting again

*For the time being, certainly, it had been found necessary to make a **readjustment** of rations (Squealer always spoke of it as a “**readjustment**,” never as a “reduction”), but in comparison with the days of Jones, the improvement was enormous.*

5. piebald

having sections or patches colored differently and brightly

*The young pigs were **piebald**, and as Napoleon was the only boar on the farm, it was possible to guess at their parentage.*

6. tureen

large deep serving dish with a cover

*And the news soon leaked out that every pig was now receiving a ration of a pint of beer daily, with half a gallon for Napoleon himself, which was always served to him in the Crown Derby soup **tureen**.*

7. spontaneous

said or done without having been planned in advance

*Napoleon had commanded that once a week there should be held something called a **Spontaneous** Demonstration, the object of which was to celebrate the struggles and triumphs of Animal Farm.*

Note the irony of a planned Spontaneous Demonstration

8. caption

brief description accompanying an illustration

*Boxer and Clover always carried between them a green banner marked with the hoof and the horn and the **caption**, "Long live Comrade Napoleon!"*

9. complicity

guilt as a confederate in a crime or offense

*On the same day it was given out that fresh documents had been discovered which revealed further details about Snowball's **complicity** with Jones.*

10. inebriate

a chronic drinker

*Jones too was dead—he had died in an **inebriates'** home in another part of the country.*

11. morose

showing a brooding ill humor

*Only old Benjamin was much the same as ever, except for being a little greyer about the muzzle, and, since Boxer's death, more **morose** and taciturn than ever.*

12. taciturn

habitually reserved and uncommunicative

*Only old Benjamin was much the same as ever, except for being a little greyer about the muzzle, and, since Boxer's death, more morose and **taciturn** than ever.*

13. sapling

young tree

*One day in early summer Squealer ordered the sheep to follow him, and led them out to a piece of waste ground at the other end of the farm, which had become overgrown with birch **saplings**.*

14. terrify

frighten greatly

*It was just after the sheep had returned, on a pleasant evening when the animals had finished work and were making their way back to the farm buildings that the **terrified** neighing of a horse sounded from the yard.*

15. **subsist**

support oneself

*He would end his remarks, he said, by emphasizing once again the friendly feelings that **subsisted**, and ought to **subsist**, between Animal Farm and its neighbors.*

16. **witticism**

a message whose ingenuity has the power to evoke laughter

*Here it became apparent that Mr. Pilkington was about to spring some carefully prepared **witticism** on the company, but for a moment he was too overcome by amusement to be able to utter it.*

17. **subversive**

in opposition to a civil authority or government

*For a long time there had been rumors—circulated, he had reason to think, by some malignant enemy—that there was something **subversive** and even revolutionary in the outlook of himself and his colleagues.*

18. **dregs**

sediment that has settled at the bottom of a liquid

*There was the same hearty cheering as before, and the mugs were emptied to the **dregs**.*

19. unalterable

not capable of being changed

*Only old Benjamin professed to remember every detail of his long life and to know that things never had been, nor ever could be much better or much worse—hunger, hardship, and disappointment being, so he said, the **unalterable** law of life.*

20. incumbent

necessary as a duty or responsibility; morally binding

*But before doing so, there were a few words that he felt it **incumbent** upon him to say.*