

**Critical Reading Passage 1** – Read the following passage from Chapter 2 of *Animal Farm* carefully. Then answer the following questions on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passage.

Now, as it turned out, the Rebellion was achieved much earlier and more easily than anyone had expected. In past years Mr. Jones, although a hard master, had been a capable farmer, but of late he had fallen on evil days. He had become much disheartened after losing money in a lawsuit, and had taken to drinking more than was good for him. For whole days at a time he would lounge in his Windsor chair in the kitchen, reading the newspapers, drinking, and occasionally feeding Moses on crusts of bread soaked in beer. His men were idle and dishonest, the fields were full of weeds, the buildings wanted roofing, the hedges were neglected, and the animals were underfed.

June came and the hay was almost ready for cutting. On Midsummer's Eve, which was a Saturday, Mr. Jones went into Willingdon and got so drunk at the Red Lion that he did not come back till midday on Sunday. The men had milked the cows in the early morning and then had gone out rabbiting, without bothering to feed the animals. When Mr. Jones got back he immediately went to sleep on the drawing-room sofa with the News of the World over his face, so that when evening came, the animals were still unfed. At last they could stand it no longer. One of the cows broke in the door of the store-shed with her horn and all the animals began to help themselves from the bins. It was just then that Mr. Jones woke up. The next moment he and his four men were in the store-shed with whips in their hands, lashing out in all directions. This was more than the hungry animals could bear. With one accord, though nothing of the kind had been planned beforehand, they flung themselves upon their tormentors. Jones and his men suddenly found themselves being butted and kicked from all sides. The situation was quite out of their control. They had never seen animals behave like this before, and this sudden uprising of creatures whom they were used to thrashing and maltreating just as they chose, frightened them almost out of their wits. After only a moment or two they gave up trying to defend themselves and took to their heels. A minute later all five of them were in full flight down the cart-track that led to the main road, with the animals pursuing them in triumph.

Mrs. Jones looked out of the bedroom window, saw what was happening, hurriedly flung a few possessions into a carpet bag, and slipped out of the farm by another way. Moses sprang off his perch and flapped after her, croaking loudly. Meanwhile the animals had chased Jones and his men out on to the road and slammed the five-barred gate behind them. And so, almost before they knew what was happening, the Rebellion had been successfully carried through: Jones was expelled, and the Manor Farm was theirs.

For the first few minutes the animals could hardly believe in their good fortune. Their first act was to gallop in a body right round the boundaries of the farm, as though to make quite sure that no human being was hiding anywhere upon it; then they raced back to the farm buildings to wipe out the last traces of Jones's hated reign. The harness-room at the end of the stables was broken open; the bits, the nose-rings, the dog-chains, the cruel knives with which Mr. Jones had been used to castrate the pigs and lambs, were all flung down the well. The reins, the halters, the blinkers, the degrading nosebags, were thrown on to the rubbish fire which was burning in the yard. So were the whips. All the animals capered with joy when

they saw the whips going up in flames. Snowball also threw on to the fire the ribbons with which the horses' manes and tails had usually been decorated on market days.

"Ribbons," he said, "should be considered as clothes, which are the mark of a human being. All animals should go naked."

When Boxer heard this he fetched the small straw hat which he wore in summer to keep the flies out of his ears, and flung it on to the fire with the rest.

In a very little while the animals had destroyed everything that reminded them of Mr. Jones. Napoleon then led them back to the store-shed and served out a double ration of corn to everybody, with two biscuits for each dog. Then they sang *Beasts of England* from end to end seven times running, and after that they settled down for the night and slept as they had never slept before.

But they woke at dawn as usual, and suddenly remembering the glorious thing that had happened, they all raced out into the pasture together. A little way down the pasture there was a knoll that commanded a view of most of the farm. The animals rushed to the top of it and gazed round them in the clear morning light. Yes, it was theirs-everything that they could see was theirs! In the ecstasy of that thought they gambolled round and round, they hurled themselves into the air in great leaps of excitement. They rolled in the dew, they cropped mouthfuls of the sweet summer grass, they kicked up clods of the black earth and snuffed its rich scent. Then they made a tour of inspection of the whole farm and surveyed with speechless admiration the ploughland, the hayfield, the orchard, the pool, the spinney. It was as though they had never seen these things before, and even now they could hardly believe that it was all their own.

1. The tone of the first paragraph could best be described as
  - A. biased
  - B. disinterested
  - C. enthusiastic
  - D. disparaging
  - E. neutral
2. Which of the following details adds a touch of irony to the second paragraph?
  - A. the fact that Midsummer's Eve was on a Sunday
  - B. Mr. Jones getting drunk at the Red Lion
  - C. Mr. Jones falling asleep with the *News of the World* over his face
  - D. a cow starting the revolution by using a horn
  - E. the animals helping themselves from the bins
3. According to the passage, the revolution of the animals was triggered by
  - A. Mr. Jones's intentional neglect of the animals
  - B. the animals' extreme hunger
  - C. the cruelty of the farmhands toward the pigs
  - D. exploitation of the animals by humans
  - E. an intentional act by the pigs

4. In the second paragraph, the men are portrayed as
- I. cowardly
  - II. cruel
  - III. calculating
- A. I only
  - B. I and II only
  - C. I and III only
  - D. II and III only
  - E. I, II, and III
5. In the paragraph beginning, "For the first few minutes," the description of the animals' actions presents them as
- A. heroic and dedicated
  - B. spontaneous and naïve
  - C. pathetic and frivolous
  - D. fanatical and focused
  - E. confused and bewildered
6. Boxer's response to Snowball's comment that "All animals should go naked" serves to
- A. show Boxer's dedication to the new way
  - B. underline how little the animals had
  - C. reveal that Mr. Jones had pampered Boxer
  - D. hint at Boxer's lack of understanding of the word "clothes"
  - E. highlight Snowball's position as supreme leader
7. The last paragraph creates a mood that could best be described as one of
- A. disbelief
  - B. conviviality
  - C. euphoria
  - D. admiration
  - E. despair
8. The point of view of the passage
- A. is first person
  - B. is second person
  - C. is third person limited
  - D. is third person omniscient
  - E. alternates between first and third person