# **Core Skills Analysis**

### **English**

- Analyzed the character of Squealer, focusing on his role within the narrative and how he functions as a persuasive speaker within the plot.
- Explored the literary device of irony, particularly how Squealer's speech contrasts between appearance and reality to influence other characters.
- Developed critical thinking skills by discussing the implications of manipulative language and propaganda as demonstrated through Squealer's dialogue.
- Engaged with the themes of power and control through the lens of character analysis and rhetorical strategies in the text.

#### **Tips**

To deepen Aiyana's understanding of character and literary devices, consider encouraging her to write a diary entry from Squealer's perspective, exploring his motivations and justifications. Role-playing debates where she defends or critiques Squealer's speech can foster empathy and critical thinking. Additionally, comparing Squealer's rhetoric to real-world examples of propaganda can build connections between literature and contemporary media literacy. Finally, examining other characters in 'Animal Farm' in relation to Squealer can help develop a broader comprehension of narrative function and thematic development.

#### **Book Recommendations**

- <u>Animal Farm</u> by George Orwell: A satirical novella that uses allegory to explore power dynamics and political corruption through the story of farm animals.
- 1984 by George Orwell: A dystopian novel examining themes of surveillance, propaganda, and the abuse of power, complementing the themes in Animal Farm.
- <u>The Giver</u> by Lois Lowry: A novel about controlled societies and the manipulation of truth, raising questions about power and individual freedom.

### **Learning Standards**

- GCSE English Literature: Analyse the language, form and structure used to create meanings and effects, and to influence, in texts (AS2a).
- GCSE English Literature: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written (AS2c).
- GCSE English Literature: Explore themes such as power, control and propaganda (AS1a).

## **Try This Next**

- Create a worksheet where Aiyana identifies examples of verbal irony in Squealer's speeches and explains their significance.
- Design a writing prompt that asks Aiyana to rewrite one of Squealer's speeches in a straightforward, honest manner to highlight the impact of his manipulative rhetoric.

#### **Growth Beyond Academics**

This activity likely supported Aiyana's analytical confidence and her ability to question the underlying intent in communication. Discussing a manipulative character such as Squealer may also have encouraged her to think critically about trust and truth, foundational skills for both emotional intelligence and social awareness.