Sources of the satire

Instructions for using the cards

Put the cards either face downwards on the desk, or in a box.

1. Work in pairs and choose a card.
2. Each card has a website reference on it where you can find information.
3. Use the website along with library books and encyclopaedias to research your topic and then create a presentation using sugar-paper, PowerPoint, or a flipchart to summarise the information you have gathered.
4. Your presentation should last for at least a minute.
5. In this case a presentation is simply a way of sharing your information with the rest of your class.
6. You should not copy out the information on the website, unless it is a particularly useful quotation. Aim to summarise the information in your own words so the rest of the class can understand it easily. (Think about what you would like the other students to tell you.)
7. You can use appropriate music on CD, MP3 player or a computer to make it more interesting and memorable.
8. You can then present your findings to the rest of the class. Where possible, this information should be available to other students as they study the text, in the form of displays, photocopied notes, intranet sites etc.
9. This activity can be referred back to as you study the novel and you it would be useful to do another presentation after reading the book, linking your original work to the characters and themes.

Soviet propaganda

Cartoons using humour and satire
This was used to tell the people what the rulers wanted them to hear. It took different forms as shown below.

Posters showing heroic Soviets leading other world workers in the glorious revolution. Their real lives were rather different.
Men and women were shown in strong and noble poses with workers’ tools instead of weapons, symbolising the fight for freedom.

Exemplar

On the left is an exemplar section of a presentation. It could be either part of a larger sheet for a poster-style display or it could be two slides of a PowerPoint presentation.
Sources of the satire

Card 1
Napoleon Bonaparte

Why might Orwell call his main pig by this name?

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napoleon_I

Card 2
Karl Marx

Old Major is said to represent this great thinker.


Card 3
Joseph Stalin

Napoleon is said to represent the dictator.


Card 4
Leon Trotsky

Snowball is supposed to represent this philosopher.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leon_Trotsky
Card 5
Communism

Animalism is the farm’s version of communism.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communism

Card 6
The Secret Police

Napoleon’s dogs are the farm’s version of the Soviet secret police.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NKVD

Card 7
The Russian Revolution

The Animals Revolt


Card 8
The First World War

Battle of the Cowshed

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Front_(World_War_I)
Sources of the satire

Card 9
The Second World War

[Image of German soldiers]

(World_War_II)

Battle of the Windmill

Card 10
The Internationale

[Audio link]

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Internationale -
the wiki-media link will give you audio files.

‘Beasts of England’

Card 11
The Hammer and Sickle

[Image of hammer and sickle]

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hammer_and_sickle

The Hoof and Horn

Card 12
Propaganda

[Image of propaganda poster]

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Propaganda_in_the
Soviet_Union

Squealer represents this aspect in the book.
Sources of the satire

Card 13
Tsar Nicholas II
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_II_of_Russia
Mr Jones represents him in the novel.

Card 14
Adolf Hitler
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolf_Hitler
Mr Frederick represents him in the novel.

Card 15
President Roosevelt
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franklin_D._Roosevelt
Mr Pilkington represents him in the novel.

Card 16
The Russian Bourgeoisie
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bourgeoisie#Within_the_socialist_movement
They are represented by Mollie in the book.
http://bookstove.com/classics/animal-farms-mollie-represents-russian-bourgeoisie