

# George Orwell wrote Animal Farm on various levels....

*He wrote it as a...*

- Fable
  - Allegory
  - Political Satire
- (We'll discuss satire more later.)

# Fable

## **Definition:**

A short tale that passed on by word of mouth that has animal characters with human qualities that teach readers a moral and/or lesson

# Animal Farm as a **Fable**

- ❖ Characters are animals each with his/her own personality and human characteristics.
- ❖ The animals think, meet, talk, act, fight, disobey, and obey...

# **Allegory**

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

# *An Allegory is...*

- A form of **extended metaphor**
- A story with **two meanings**
  1. Literal meaning
  2. Symbolic meaning

- The underlying meaning of an allegory has **moral, social, religious, or political significance**
- In an allegory, characters are often **personifications** of abstract ideas as charity, greed, or envy.
- An allegory **continues** throughout the **entire text**

# Animal Farm as an **Allegory**

- Animal Farm = History of Russia  
From 1917–1943
- Animalism = Communism
- Characters = Russian Historical Figures