

NARRATIVE VOICE IN *ANIMAL FARM*

George Orwell wrote *Animal Farm* with a third person omniscient narrator. It would have been very different, had he written in as first person narrative from the perspective of, say, Napoleon, or Boxer.

How different? You decide. Rewrite the following passages from the perspective of the character specified.

The mystery of where the milk went to was soon cleared up. It was mixed every day into the pigs' mash. The early apples were now ripening, and the grass of the orchard was littered with windfalls. The animals had assumed as a matter of course that these would be shared out equally; one day, however, the order went forth that all the windfalls were to be collected and brought to the harness-room for the use of the pigs. At this some of the other animals murmured, but it was no use. All the pigs were in full agreement on this point, even Snowball and Napoleon. Squealer was sent to make the necessary explanations to the others.

[from chapter 3]

Rewrite the above extract, but write it in the form of a **first person narrative**, from the perspective of Napoleon – remember, it is no longer unbiased. You **must add** to this passage to show that. (**It has been started it for you, just to help you out...*)

It was quite obvious where the milk was going, we pigs _____

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 of them were in full flight down the cart-track that led to the main road, with the animals pursuing them in triumph.

[from chapter 2]

Rewrite the above extract, but write it in the form of a **first person narrative**, from the perspective of Mr Jones – remember, it is no longer unbiased. You **must add** to this passage to show that (**It has been started it for you, just to help you out...*)

I woke with a start. _____
