

Standards Focus: *Main and Subordinate Characters*

Chapter Three

In order to understand a plot and its significance, it is important that the reader understand the characters and their relationships. **Main characters** are those characters around which the plot is centered. They are the most important factors in the advancement of the plot, and can be either good or evil. **Subordinate characters** are supporting characters. They do not necessarily need to be in the story in order for the plot to unfold. Each character has a **motivation**, or forces which give the character a reason to act they way they do, or make the decisions they make.

Directions: For each of the following characters, identify:

- a) whether the character is main or subordinate*
- b) the character's main motivation*
- c) the character's main conflict*
- d) how this character and his motivations have affected the plot so far.*

Ex. Napoleon

- a. main
- b. to become supreme ruler of Animal Farm
- c. Snowball
- d. Napoleon was not able to truly flourish as a leader with Snowball opposing his ideas. Since he has scared Snowball away, he is now free to do whatever he wants without opposition.

1. Snowball

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

2. Boxer

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

3. Benjamin

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____

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4. Old Major

- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
- _____
- _____

5. Squealer

- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
- _____
- _____

6. Mollie

- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
- _____
- _____

7. The Dogs

- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
- _____