Animal Farm Essay
Question: How does Orwell us animals for characters in Animal Farm? What are the effects on the reader? Choose three animals from the novel and write a short, well-organized essay.

In the story animal farm by George Orwell there are several animals representing different characteristics, some for which we feel sympathetic, and the others that we either feel angry or mad, due to their actions that are represented in the story. Orwell in this book is trying to represent the animals as human beings in the Soviet Union during the Cold War. The three animals that caught my attention are Boxer, Napoleon, and Squealer. These three characters is what made up the Soviet Union. Boxer is represented as the working class or also known as the proletariats. Napoleon takes the role of Joseph Stalin, the Dictator of Soviet Russia. Finally, Squealer is represented as the propaganda or the government of the Soviet Union. In this book Orwell uses these animals to portray the soviet union during the cold war. In addition each animal a plays role, in which we feel sympathetic for a few and a few that we may be really mad or even get frustrated.

Boxer in this story is a very loyal and a sympathetic horse. His loyalty towards Napoleon was something that was considerable but his master, Napoleon, whom he trusted Betrays him. Throughout the book Boxer had only two slogans which he kept repeating. “His two slogans, ‘I will work harder’ and ‘Napoleon is always right’”(p44). Orwell in this case is trying to represent the loyalty of the working class towards Stalin. However their loyalty is not acknowledged and therefore most proletariats are killed and become unnecessary after retirement. “Some of the animals noticed that the van which took boxer away was marked ‘Horse Slaughterer’…… Boxer was being sent to the knackers”(p85). This evidence is proof to what Orwell is trying to prove, the working class people were never acknowledged. In addition this evidence also
represents how sympathetic we readers could feel about Boxer and also maybe examine the sadness in Boxer's death.

Napoleon in the story Animal Farm was a boar who is controlling all the animals in the animal farm and he treated the other animals brutally and unequally. Napoleon was represented as Stalin in the Soviet Union. Napoleon’s intentions for controlling the Animal Farm were never considered to be equal nor good. Napoleon, just like Stalin is a selfish and self-centered character, and only cares about money. One example to his selfishness is how he changes the rules that are created in the farm. “No animal must ever tyrannize over his own kind. Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers (p.8).” “All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others (p.92).” The second part to the evidence proves how first the animals are convinced to have equality but soon later we see that the pigs have more rights than the other animals. Joseph Stalin, in this case does a similar thing by brain washing the citizens than to change the rules to him and his communist party being more powerful than the citizens. In addition although Napoleon only cared about him and the pigs, he also only cared about money, money was everything for Napoleon in this story. One evidence to this is how he sold Boxer, the most loyal person, to the knackers. “On the following day .... The pigs had acquired the money to buy themselves another case of whisky (p 86).” The only reason for selling Boxer was because Napoleon wanted to drink more whisky. Finally as readers we could say that Napoleon, and therefore Stalin, are the people that make this world seem corrupt, bad and disgusting.

Squealer, a huge liar, is Napoleon’s assistant in this book, he is portrayed as the propaganda/Government of the Soviet Union. Squealer is also another pig who helps Napoleon brain wash the other animals who are not as smart as the pigs. In this book it is considered that the pigs are the smartest meaning that the pigs could easily take control over the other animals by brain
washing them. On example to this is while Boxer was been sent to the knacklers. “The van had previously been the property of the knacklers and now had been bought by the veterinary surgeon, who had yet not painted the old name out (p. 86).” This proves how easily one pig, squealer or the government could fool the other animals or the citizens so easily. As the reader you may feel that this is not possible but actually it has happened, and this is happened in the Soviet Union.

In conclusion George Orwell’s idea for using animals as characters has been proven to be great choice as these animal’s intentions and reaction work exactly the same way as the human brain does. As Napoleon is shown as a self centered animal, Stalin is exactly the same and so are other humans. Through this book we readers can learn how George Orwell hasn’t written this book for no reason but has actually written it to make a point. Finally we can say that this book was very meaningful and helped us, humans understand our ways of living through animals.