

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Costume Activity

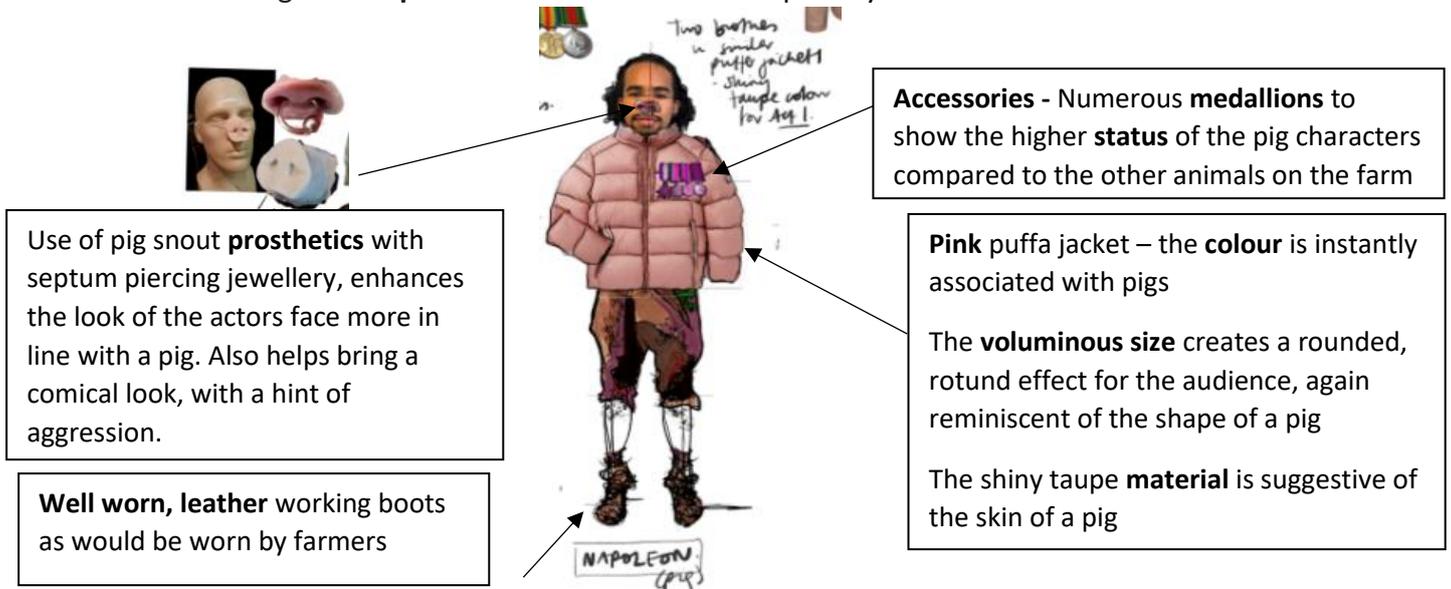
Although a costume designer does consider what suits individual character personalities, they also must look further in consultation with the director – what is the style of the play? What is the mood and atmosphere, of the play and of individual scenes? Designers often create mood boards and visual references to share their ideas visually with the director.

Below you can see one of the initial ideas for the play, as it starts to take shape. Reference is made to fabric, material, specifics such as ‘xmas jumper’ are mentioned. Natural earthy colours help reflect the farm the sheep lives on.



Within Animal Farm, there is a marked development of some of the animals becoming much more ‘human-like’ as the play moves forward. This was reflected within the costume designs of the play.

Here is the design for **Napoleon** in the first act. I have put key costume terms used in **bold**.



Practice question: You are designing a costume for Napoleon to wear in Act 1 of Animal Farm. The costume must reflect the context of Animal Farm. Describe your design ideas for the costume.

Here we see a different pig (Minimus) in Act 2. There is a lot more human like detail in this costume and it also looks more aggressive in tone. The designer, Jasmine Swan, has also considered entrance and effects which could accompany 'the pigs' in this Act, such as 'confetti' and a 'fanfare entrance'

Over to you... what other changes have been made to reflect the character development and themes of the play? and the characters.



Accessories choice and justification:
sunglasses

Waistcoat – material choice and justification:

Fit and justification:

Style and justification:

Wear and tear/condition of waistcoat:

Accessories choice and justification:

Shoes/trainers:

Studded gloves (material, style, fit, colour)

When designing costumes for the characters in the play you are studying, there are certain elements you need to consider. Use the table below to help you plan for another key character in *Animal Farm*.

Character:	Choice	Justification / connotations
Style of performance		
Time period		
Status		
Age		
Occupation (where relevant)		
Fabric/material – texture/effect		
Colour		
Condition/wear and tear		
Shoes		
Accessories		

Practice question: Evaluate the visual impact the costume used in *Animal Farm*, had on you as an audience member. You must include examples from the performance within your answer.