Closer Reading:

*Animal Farm* in *The Atlantic*

1. Given the conclusion of the novel, does the title of the article surprise you? Why or why not?
2. What is “The Gulag” mentioned in the second paragraph?
3. According to the third paragraph, what purpose or value did Orwell share with Ukranian refugees?
4. In the paragraph beginning “During Orwell’s time,” which character in Animal Farm is most responsible for the tight control of information in the pigs’ totalitarian regime? How do his/her actions mirror those described in the article?
5. Explain the Titanic analogy in the paragraph beginning, “In over a year.”
6. Why does the author of this article feel particularly strongly that Stalin was never held suitably responsible for his crimes? Hint: it’s a personal connection.
7. Orwell’s *Animal Farm* is repeatedly described as “bootlegged” in this article. Historically, what other things have been bootlegged? What does “bootlegging” mean, and why do individuals bootleg?