

Name _____



Talking Barn

E.B. White's *Charlotte's Web* is not just a story about a pig and a spider—it is a world where animals talk, think, and feel just like humans. This is possible because of personification, a literary technique where human qualities are given to animals and objects. Through personification, White brings the barnyard to life, making the characters feel real and their friendships meaningful.

From the very beginning, Wilbur is not just a pig; he is a character with emotions. He feels joy when Fern takes care of him, loneliness when he moves to the barn, and fear when he learns about the farmer's plans. He talks to the other animals, dreams about his future, and even cries when he is sad. By giving Wilbur human-like thoughts and feelings, White helps readers connect with him as if he were a real person.

Charlotte, the wise and caring spider, also shows human qualities. She speaks in full sentences, makes plans, and even writes words in her web. In real life, spiders do not communicate this way, but in *Charlotte's Web*, Charlotte's wisdom and kindness make her a beloved character. She is not just any spider—she is a loyal friend who sacrifices for Wilbur.

The other animals also come to life through personification. Templeton, the rat, is sneaky and selfish, but he still helps Wilbur when needed. The goose speaks in a repetitive, excited way, making her personality feel lively and fun. Even the old sheep acts as a wise, advising figure in the barn. Each animal has a unique personality, just like people do.

By using personification, White makes the story of *Charlotte's Web* more engaging and emotional. Readers do not just see animals—they see friends, heroes, and lessons about love, sacrifice, and friendship. The talking barn is not just a place where animals live; it is a world where kindness and bravery matter.